



# Halkyn Mountain News

Issue 176 - Spring 2019

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## Hello!

My name is Saul Burton and I am very pleased to be able to introduce myself as the new Halkyn Mountain Living Landscape Project Officer. I thought I would write a short piece for the Halkyn Mountain News to say hello and to tell you a little bit about myself.

I live locally - we have lived in the area for about twenty years. After a short time in Rhosesmor, we moved to Rhydymwyn where we still live. I hail from Wirral originally, but moved to North Wales as the scenery is so much better!

I have worked in the environmental sector for over twenty years. More than sixteen of those years were spent working as a Countryside Ranger, managing some of the key sites in Leeds and Cheshire. I have also worked for the National Trust at Erddig, where I managed the Gardeners, Rangers and Horse Team.

I have experience of working on a wider landscape scale as I was Project Officer for Saltscape which was a £4 million, three year Heritage Lottery Funded landscape partnership based in the salt fields of Cheshire. This had close parallels with the Halkyn Mountain Living Landscape project in that the landscape is internationally significant, largely due to the legacy of many years of heavy industry based on the underlying geology.

I'm sure you don't need me to tell you that Halkyn Mountain is regionally, nationally and internationally important due to the limestone and mineral deposits. This geology has shaped the landscape and local communities through centuries of industry. The flora and fauna of the mountain are a unique patchwork of grassland, heathland and wetland. This has resulted in very special landscape which warrants designation as a Site of Special Scientific Interest and a Special Area of Conservation.

The purpose of my role is to:

Help sustain a resilient landscape and manage the key habitats and species to be in favourable condition.

Address the decline in grazing and biodiversity through good land management and support sustainable grazing practices of the commoners.

Manage the area, with its great ecological, geological and historic interest, in a way that provides enjoyment for local residents and visitors.

Conserve and enhance the unique biodiversity and character of the common.

I will work in partnership with the land owners, with Rachael Watson the site Ranger and with statutory bodies to deliver these aims.

I'm sure the job will prove to be as varied as the landscape of the mountain and I am looking forward to getting stuck into the role. I will keep you all posted on our progress in the Halkyn Mountain News.

I may well see you out on the common!

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**Please submit items by May 1st for issue 177, which should be out in June 2019.**

You can email items to [hmnews@btinternet.com](mailto:hmnews@btinternet.com)

or hand them in to the Blue Bell Inn, Halkyn, in an envelope marked 'For the attention of HMN'.

If you have any questions you can call Jack McIntyre on 01352 780 377

## Editorial

Welcome to another edition of Halkyn Mountain News, which must be one of the few publications which does not include any articles on Brexit.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this edition. This issue we have an introduction to a book about the ups and downs of running a guest house and a description of the history of one of the houses on the mountain derived from ancient documents provided to the purchasers. As always we welcome new contributions.

From each edition it is evident that there is so much going on in our mountain community and yet we are conscious that there is yet so much more happening than is reported here.

While we have no report in this edition, we would like to acknowledge the success of Charlie Hulson, from Rhosesmor, who represented Great Britain in the Senior Men's race at the Spar European Cross Country Championships, in Tilburg, Netherlands on the 9<sup>th</sup> December.

Another success worthy of mention is the publication of a set of six books by Steve Blakesley of Rhosesmor. Published by Findel, they have been illustrated by Natalie Griffiths also of Rhosesmor.

The "Birds Behaving Badly" series provides story therapy to help children to recognise feelings and behaviours.

Congratulations to Charlie, Steve and Natalie from all at Halkyn Mountain News.

If you or someone you know has an achievement to celebrate, or an event to forewarn of or report on, please let us know for our Summer edition.

### The Editorial Team

***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](http://halkyn.org.uk)***

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

## Halkyn Community Council



### Community Defibrillators

Community defibrillators are installed on the outside walls of the following buildings:

Halkyn Parish Hall, Pentre Halkyn Community Centre, Rhes y Cae Village Hall and Rhosesmor Village Hall



### B5123 Road - Officially a Live Site for Go Safe Police Enforcement

Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Berth Ddu to Rhosesmor area. Following numerous requests over the past two years from both the Halkyn Community Council, together with residents, the area between Berth Ddu to Rhosesmor and in particular, outside Ysgol Rhos Helyg Primary School, have finally been officially declared a 'Live Site' for speed enforcement by the Go Safe Team.

Whilst speed assessments have been carried out in the area on a number of occasions, the results were showing an increasing amount of speeding traffic, including heavy goods vehicles. The most recent speed survey revealed speeding vehicles over and above the general criteria for safe driving. During the latter part of 2018 – there were 39 Go Safe visits to the area and 169 vehicles have been captured committing offences. Speeding Tickets have been issued in the area of Ysgol Rhos Helyg.

### Criminal Offences Reported Within the Community

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

#### Halkyn:

- (1) 1 x ASB Nuisance – Nuisance calls received by company claiming to stop nuisance callers (phone number: 01920 5000024) asking people for bank details (sort code/ account numbers)
- (2) 1 x ASB Nuisance – Youths trespassing onto the Pant Quarry and swimming/ jumping into the water. List of names given to NWP.
- (3) 1 x ABS Nuisance – Off Road Bikers riding near Halkyn Quarry. VRM known of van, bikes and other vehicles.
- (4) 1 x Criminal Damage - Halkyn Cricket Club – 4 males between 17-20 have broken locks to football posts and caused damage to posts.

- (5) 1 x ASB Environment – Off Road Bikes in area.
- (6) 1 x Suspicious Circumstances – Cold caller to elderly person's address stating they had recently come out of prison and were selling items – male caller became aggressive.
- (7) 1 x Drugs Offence – Occupant of car found in possession of cannabis.
- (8) 1 x Burglary – Pant y Gof – tools and machinery taken from sheds of farm.
- (9) 1 x ASB Environment – Suspected unauthorized access to mine shafts as metal grate was moved out of the way.
- (10) 1 x ASB Nuisance – Off road motorbike sighted on Halkyn Mountain travelling from Windmill to Rhes y Cae.

#### **Pentre Halkyn:**

- (1) 1 x Burglary Other Than Dwelling – Shed has been broken into, nothing taken but lock forced off shed.
- (2) 1 x Burglary in Cae Masan – Caller reported ongoing burglary at location. Firearms response and dog handler deployed and one person arrested on suspicion of burglary and possession of class B drug.

#### **Rhes y Cae:**

**1 x Suspicious Circumstances** – Star Crossing - Five males with Irish accents have claimed to be doing work in the area on drains but had a lot of interest in the property and the informant's Land Rover Defender.

#### **Rhosesmor:**

- (1) 1 x Suspicious Circumstances – Informant could hear dogs barking, squealing noises and flashing red lights believed to be badger baiting activity. Vehicle VRM recorded.
- (2) 1 x Contact Record – elderly person received call from India advising that they were Microsoft and that her Microsoft ID was corrupt. Caller gained personal bank details but bank were able to cancel transaction and issue new bank card.
- (3) 1 x ASB Environment – Two scrambler bikes on bridleway near Old Vicarage Rhosesmor.

#### **Rhosesmor War Memorial**

Councillor Mrs. Wendy Sigsworth brought to the attention of the Council Members that a number of names contained in the Rhosesmor Church War Memorial, did not reflect all the names inscribed on the Rhosesmor Cenotaph Memorial Stone (as pictured to left). Whilst Councillor John Thomas advised that the names in the Church were added at a later date – the Council agreed to cover the cost of the names to be inscribed on the Cenotaph. Following an inspection by a Monumental Mason, there may not be enough room on the actual Cenotaph for the additional names – whereby the Council are consideration other options, such as a suitable plaque.



#### **Can residents provide any additional information in relation to the following names?**

Hugh Hughes, Charles Douglas, Mason Robert Roberts, Charles Williams.

These are the names which are listed on the War Memorial at St. Paul's Church, Rhosesmor, but are not

listed on the Rhosesmor Cenotaph Memorial Stone. The Council would be pleased to receive details, in particular the military titles. Please contact the Clerk to the Council – as detailed below.

#### **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: 059110 – for the proposed erection of raised terrace area and associated external door with alterations to existing window, at Springfield Hotel, Pentre Halkyn. Comment by Council: Providing that the application complies with planning policy, then no objections raised.

(2) Application number: 059010 – for the proposed rebuild of existing derelict outbuilding and wall, at Moel y Crio Farm, Moel y Crio. Comment by Council: Providing that the application complies with planning policy then no objections raised.

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

#### **Planning decisions received from Flintshire County Council:**

(1) Application number: 058738 – for existing garage to be demolished and bungalow to be extended to form lounge, kitchen/utility along with associated car parking area etc., at 1, Uwch y Mor, Pentre Halkyn. Approved.

(2) Application number: 058907 – for non-material amendment following grant of planning permission number: 057563, at Pen yr Orsedd Farm, Rhosesmor. Approved.

(3) Application number: 058438 – for prior notification of agricultural or forestry development for the proposed erection of a store to be located at the north west side of land, forming part of Terfyn Farm, Rhosesmor. (Prior approval not required).

#### **Rhes y Cae Play Area - upgrading play facilities**



The Community Council agreed to match fund the sum of £10,000 towards an upgrade to include new play area equipment in the Rhes y Cae Children's Play area. The funding has kindly been match funded by Flintshire County Council. Therefore, the sum of £20,000 will be spent on the project during the spring of this year. Councillor Mrs. Nicola Richardson (Rhes y Cae) will be making available suggested plans to interested parties – to ascertain the type of play equipment that is wished for by the community.

Phillip Parry,  
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# Brynford Community Council

## Brynford Recreation Ground

As reported in the last issue of the News Letter the Council have approved the refurbishment of the roof to football changing rooms. Quotations have been received and instructions issued for the refurbishment. The work will be commenced in March 2019 and will involve removal of the existing roof and replacement with an insulated roofing system. The Council has also had an electrical condition survey undertaken to the internal of the building resulting in a number of modifications being required to make the building compliant to current safety regulations resulting in an Electrical Safety Certificate being issued.

## Development at Paradise Park on the A5026

Residents will be aware of the ongoing development to the rear of the A55 slip road to Holywell and highway to the Haven Garage.

The Council has been trying repeatedly to obtain information from the Planning Authority, Flintshire County Council on what planning consents have been granted. Concerns being raised by residents over development activities being undertaken by the developer which may not have planning permission have repeatedly been reported to the Planning Authority.

The response from officers of the Planning Authority has not been forthcoming despite representations being made from Holywell Town Council and Halkyn Community Council Members.

However, I am pleased to report that a letter dated the 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2019 has now been received from the Planning Authority. The letter sets out the current planning position confirming that no planning permissions are in place or extant on the site. Planning Enforcement Officers are investigating the case with a view of gathering sufficient evidence in order that appropriate enforcement action can be undertaken.

## Best Kept Community Project 2019

A meeting of the above project group was held at Brynford Pet Cemetery on the 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2018. The purpose of the project group is to look at ways together with local residents how small improvements within the community can enhance the appearance of the local landscape and wellbeing of residents.

Some proposals being discussed are:

- The creation of landscaping features at the gateways to the village and settlements.

- Provision of hanging baskets or planters, which would be adopted by local residents and maintained.

- Enhancement of the disused BT Telephone Kiosk outside Brynford C.P. School.

- Creation of a wild flower garden at St. Michael's Church, Brynford.

Further meetings of the project group are being held at Brynford Pet Cemetery on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February and Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2019 for 6.00pm. Please join us for a coffee and a chat.

## Setting of Council Budget and Precept 2019-20

At the meeting of the Council held the 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 members considered its budget and financial position for the year 2019-20.

The Council has a number of projects requiring financial support including the on-going refurbishment of Brynford Recreation Ground and changing rooms together with further upgrading works to the children's play area.

In the past years to reduce the burden on household rate charges the Council has used its financial reserves to offset any major increase in the precept and subsequently household rate increases.

However, for this year the Council is unable to support any budget requirements from its reserves and set the following budget and precept for 2019-20.

	<u>2018-19</u>	<u>2019-20</u>
The Council budget requirement	£31,110	£29,380
Precept Band "D" Property per year	£36.66	£56.83

## Off Roothing Motor and Quad Bikes on Brynford Common

The Council has received a number of complaints regarding the number of quad bikes and motor cycles being ridden on the common. It has been noted that a significant number of bikes are entering the common via Pen y Ball Hill.

This matter has been brought to the attention of North Wales Police who have advised that appropriate enforcement action is being considered for the near future.

*A. Roberts, Clerk to the Council,  
Crecas Cottage, Carmel Hill,  
Pantasaph, Nr. Holywell, CH8 8NZ  
Tel. No: 01352 349849  
clerk@brynfordcommunitycouncil.gov.uk*

## Halkyn WI

Well they say Spring brings hope and, after the colds and chest infections of Winter, I do hope we are now looking forward to brighter days.

**March 7<sup>th</sup> at 2:15pm** meeting, our speaker is Trish Ficker from the British Heart Foundation.

**April 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:15pm** (please note we change to evening meetings, as the days get lighter). April is also our Guest Night, as members from other WI's within our group come to visit and socialise. A buffet is served after our speaker Penny Brett-Roberts has given her talk on 'Ballgowns on the QE2' including real life examples on display.

**May 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:15pm.** Speaker to be confirmed.

Any questions please call:

Fiona Jones on 01352 780 462

## Hannah Blythyn AM

It is a pleasure to be updating residents in Halkyn Mountain and I'd like to wish readers a pleasant and prosperous New Year. As always, I will continue to work hard for our communities across Delyn and be a strong and effective voice for you in the National Assembly for Wales.

This year marks the Year of Discovery - a journey to uncover the amazing adventures, culture and landscapes we have to offer here in Wales. Delyn boasts a rich canvas of cultural landmarks and breathtaking landscapes and throughout this year, I want more people than ever to #DiscoverDelyn. Using the hashtag I want you to get in touch online, or on social media, all year round and share the hidden gems our community has to offer. For more information, visit my Facebook page at [facebook.com/hannah4delyn](https://facebook.com/hannah4delyn) or on Instagram @hannah4delyn Together let's make 2019 the year to #DiscoverDelyn

Ensuring our communities remain safe and secure is a priority for me as your Assembly Member. On Friday February 15, I'm holding a "Cuppa with a Copper" event at Caerwys Town Hall, with a representative from North Wales Police. From 10am to 11am, join us over a brew to discuss the issues that matter to you in your community, or simply just come and say hello. Like my community advice drop-in sessions, no appointment is necessary and all are welcome to attend.

Increasing the amount of money people can keep while in residential care underlines the Welsh Labour Government's commitment to supporting older people in Wales.

I was pleased the amount of capital limit used by local authorities who charge for residential care has been raised from £40,000 to £50,000 by the Welsh Labour Government from April this year. Raising the capital limit delivers on Welsh Labour's pledge made during the 2016 Assembly election. In April 2017, the limit was increased from £24,000 to £30,000 and subsequently last year from £30,000 to £40,000. Helping older people access affordable care is so important and I know that people are concerned about the costs involved and the thought of having to use their life savings or selling their homes to pay for care. This is another positive step as, unlike in England - where the limit is lower - residents in Delyn and across Wales will be able retain more of their hard earned savings to use as they wish in later years.

The Welsh Government has actively increased its preparations to safeguard the interests of Wales and its people as it becomes clearer that a disastrous No Deal outcome is a real possibility in the Brexit negotiations. The Preparing Wales website is a single, comprehensive guide for the people of Wales, about the actions the Welsh Government is taking to

prepare for the significant impact should No Deal occur. It sets out advice and guidance for citizens, organisations and sectors across Wales about the steps that need to be taken to prepare for such an outcome. Ensuring the services people rely on continue to function smoothly in the event of No Deal are a priority for the Welsh Government and work is being done to ensure this. Further information can be found online at <https://beta.gov.wales/preparing-wales>

Looking ahead, until our next update, keep an eye out for my weekly column in the Leader newspaper as well as my social media pages for future updates and when and where to meet with me to discuss what matters to you. I will be holding a community advice drop-in session later this month, so constituents who may require advice and guidance on any matters can meet with me at Holywell Library from 4pm-5pm on Friday February 22. No appointment is necessary and all are welcome to attend. Those who may not be able to make the drop-in but still wish to raise an issue can get in touch with me or are always more than welcome to pop into my constituency office in Flint. We recommend the best times to visit are between 9am and noon and 2pm-5pm, Monday to Friday. You can also get in touch with me by writing to: Hannah Blythyn AM, 38 Church Street, Flint, Flintshire, CH6 5AE, by emailing me at [hannah.blythyn@assembly.wales](mailto:hannah.blythyn@assembly.wales) or by calling 01352 762 102.

You can also find me on Facebook and Instagram at Hannah4Delyn or on Twitter @HannahBlythyn

### 1st Halkyn Mountain Scout Group



Come and give it a try,  
see if you like and then stay!

We are a small group and meet in **Rhosesmor Village Hall** every Friday during term time and we would like to invite boys and girls to join us.

*Cubs: Fridays 6:30 pm – 7:30pm.*  
*Scouts: Fridays 7:30pm – 9:00pm.*

Cubs can start at the age of 8yrs and Scouts from the age of 10yrs.

Come and make new friends, take part in indoor and outdoor activities and learn new skills.

For information or a chat contact Christine Cowley on:  
01352 780 192 or 07518 957 747 or  
[joycowley@btinternet.com](mailto:joycowley@btinternet.com)

## Grosvenor Estate Update

In the last edition of Halkyn Mountain News, we reported a mineshaft collapse which happened on the Common on the 14th of October. The site was immediately secured and initial remediation works were carried out in November. A plan is now being drawn up to look into a more permanent solution, and the shaft is being regularly monitored by the Halkyn Mountain Ranger to identify potential additional movement. We will provide a further update on the remediation programme in the next edition.

We completed the remediation of the Moel y Crio mineshaft, which collapsed back in March 2018. You will now notice that permanent fencing has been erected following site works and ground settling during the winter.

Meanwhile, we have also installed temporary fencing around 4 small shaft features in the area where change and movement was detected. This is a precautionary measure to protect the safety of Common users as part of our ongoing land management programme.

Following the fires of last summer, fencing around the Pen yr Henblas quarry was unfortunately damaged. We have been considering options for securing the site, and all damaged fencing will be repaired during February and March. As with all other works on the Common, we thank you in advance for your co-operation as we make the required repairs.

Sadly, flytipping continues to be an issue on parts of Halkyn Common. Not only is this illegal, it poses a risk to the health and wellbeing of the local community. The latest incident involves asbestos which was illegally deposited on land owned by Grosvenor Estate, just off Brynford Road. This is a highly hazardous material, and a specialist asbestos removal company has been instructed to safely collect and responsibly dispose of this dumped waste. If you notice any flytipping activity on the Common, please do report it to us by calling the Eaton Estate Office on 01244 684 400.

The care and management of woodland and trees, as well as habitat and conservation activities, is another important area of our responsibility as landowner. Over recent months the Forestry Team, based at Eaton Estate, have undertaken a thorough health assessment on several trees across the Common. This has identified 22 trees in different locations which require works due to conservation and/or health and safety reasons.

Preservation works to 5 of these trees were completed before Christmas, and works on the remaining 17 are scheduled for the coming months. Whilst we make every effort to preserve trees wherever possible, felling is sometimes the only viable option. Any cutting down of trees will include a re-planting programme as part of the tree works schedule to benefit the local environment and community. If you'd like to know more about the current tree management programme, please get in touch with Tom Crompton by email to:

Tom.Crompton@grosvenor.com

## Halkyn Mountain

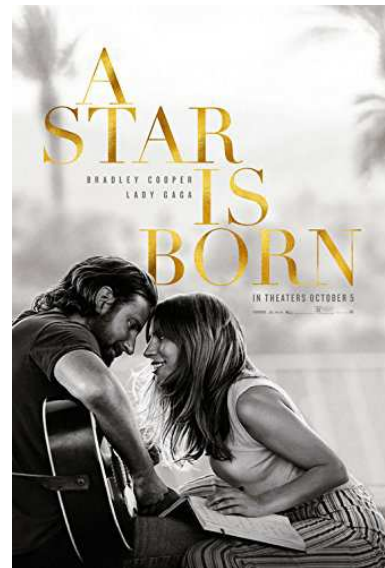
### Community Cinema

Halkyn Mountain Community Cinema began its fifth year by screening the sing-a-long version "Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again" in January. A packed Parish Hall merrily indulged in the Abba classics watching a film on which even the mighty Mark Kermode remarked, "I loved it to pieces and I can't wait to go again", in his 5 star review in The Guardian. My my!

Coming up on March 23rd the musical theme continues when the Oscar tipped Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper are adorning the big screen on our little mountain in "A Star Is Born". So don't miss that!

**Saturday March 23rd at Halkyn Parish Hall.**

Tickets are £4 and will be available from our website (see below) or from the Blue Bell Inn from March 9th.



As a huge fan of the greatest comedy duo of all time I am personally excited to announce later in the year we'll also be screening "Stan & Ollie", another film with Oscar potential starring John C. Reilly and Steve Coogan. The lobby boys may well be wearing bowler hats.

I hope you will all extend your support to the mountain cinema through the coming year and continue to make our voluntary

endeavours a success. May I take this opportunity to remind you that everyone is very welcome from anywhere across the wonderful mountain we live on; so if you've never been before buy yourself a couple of tickets, come and join us and relax with a cup or tea and enjoy a proper night out at the flicks.

As always you can keep up to date with all the news about YOUR mountain cinema by heading over to the website, following the social media channels or signing up to the mailing list.

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

[www.facebook.com/mountaincinema](https://www.facebook.com/mountaincinema)

[www.twitter.com/mountaincinema](https://www.twitter.com/mountaincinema)

Mike Flaherty

Treasurer - Halkyn Mountain Community Cinema

## Blue Bell Walks

The weather for the January walks was good and it encouraged walkers to keep to their New Year's Resolution to keep fit, keep active, keep walking and keep healthy and happy. It was very pleasing to see new faces and to welcome back those who have been experiencing ill health.

The Blue Bell 60 and 90 minute walks will start on Wednesday April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Following the Walks, the popular Quiz Night will continue throughout the Summer. Some of our walkers also enjoy 90minute evening walks on Mondays in Bagillt from the Upper Ship and Fridays from The Crown Inn, Lixwm.

Our ninth annual Sponsored Walk in aid of Kidney Wales research, dialysis and transplants will take place on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April. I will be pleased to receive sponsorship or donations to this good cause which can be made on the day of the walk. We have possibly made a difference because now, kidney dialysis is available in North Wales. If any reader can tell me of a Kidney Wales Charity Shop I will visit and support it.

So many features with so much history have been lost to the Halkyn Mountain area. I have seen the closure of the Halkyn Mine, shops in the three villages, the Cross Keys, The Miners Arms, the Wesleyan and Bethel Chapels and the closure of the Pant y Gof Chapel. I admire the hard working Mrs Gwyneth Hughes who has carried on the good work of her late husband in raising funds to help keep the doors of Rhes y Cae Church open. For this year's Donation Walk she has chosen the village of Bagillt which has so much history. I invite the Blue Bell Walkers and anyone else who is interested to join us on this Donation Walk on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2018 starting from the Upper Ship Inn at 10.30am. The walk is suitable for all abilities. I will lead the party along the Coastal Path to the small port by the old railway station. Here in the 1800's visitors from Merseyside would be met by pony and trap and taken to visit Basingwerk Abbey, the Holy Well, Pantasaph Monastery and St Asaph Cathedral. Onward towards Bettisfield Colliery where the more able might like to ascend the colliery spoil heaps to view the Dragon Beacon. Having rounded the headland we will come to the second port which is still used by fishermen. Inland of the port is the entrance to the ten mile long Milwr Tunnel. Returning along the old High Street we will enjoy refreshments at the Upper Ship.

John Thomas

### 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

## Heartfelt Art & Craft

As we approach the re-commencement of our Heartfelt Art & Craft fairs, held at Halkyn Parish Hall and Library, it is important to reflect on the success of our small community venture. We started the fundraising art and craft fairs in 2014, with an idea of holding regular artisan events in our local village, utilising the wonderful Parish Hall. It was hoped that the fairs and venue would offer greater community engagement, enhancement of the use of the hall, raise lots of money for charities and support local artists, crafters, makers and bakers.

We are pleased and proud to say that our Heartfelt craft fairs have done just that. Six years later, as we approach our first fair of 2019, we are hopeful that the venture will enjoy another successful year, with excellent attendance, welcomed support and superb community spirit; all of which we have come to expect. Although, we are far from complacent.

Over the last five years (2014-2019), we have raised and donated just over £20,000 to 30+ different charities and other worthy causes. There is no admission fee. We raise the funds through the sale of delicious home-baked cakes and refreshments, a raffle and tombola. Also, some kind donations are added to the totals raised and donated. We can't thank the local community, and visitors to our fairs enough. We are aware that visitors attend our fairs from far and wide. It is their contribution which make our fairs so successful. We work hard to raise awareness of the events, advertising locally, utilising local press and radio as well as social media. However, you can't under estimate the value of 'word of mouth' and good old fashioned foot work, visiting local shops, libraries, businesses and shopping retail outlets, in the hope they will accept a small poster or some event fliers outlining all our dates and detailing the charities we support.

This year, our first fair will be held on **Saturday 30th March**, when we will be supporting fundraising for RNLI - Flint. This is a superb charity, and one we certainly could not do without! This will be followed by the following craft fairs all held between 10am-3pm at Halkyn Parish Hall & Library:  
**Saturday 18th May**, when we fundraising for Ty-Croeso-Dawn Elizabeth House, Glan Clwyd Hospital.  
**Saturday 14th September** when we will be fundraising for Cancer Research UK, working with volunteers from Connah's Quay. **Saturday 30th November** will be our Christmas fair, when we will be fundraising for the amazing charity Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation - Wales (JDRF).

All money raised at each fair will be donated direct to the charity. We look forward to supporting talented local artisans who will exhibit their amazing, bespoke arts and crafts for sale.

I will end my update with a sincere and huge 'Thank you' to everyone who supports our fairs in one way or another; whether it is by raising awareness and sharing news of the fairs, by baking cakes, selling raffle tickets or by attending the events, whatever the weather. We can't thank you enough. If you'd like to offer help to distribute a few of our event fliers, to your friends and family, please contact me direct.

For more information on the fairs, please contact organiser Susan Parry-Harwood on 01352 781088 or email: [heartfelt.mountainstudio@aol.co.uk](mailto:heartfelt.mountainstudio@aol.co.uk)



## **Rhosesmor Over 60's Christmas Party**

The venue was once again Holywell Golf Club, Brynford, for Rhosesmor Over 60's Christmas Party. Fifty villagers were treated to a wonderful three course, traditional Christmas Dinner followed by mince pies and coffee. We would like to thank Jane, barman Dave and colleagues for looking after us all so well.

Singer Allan Murray with his electric keyboard kept us entertained and dancing.

Twenty lucky people won raffle prizes (eight from one table!) ranging from a bottle of malt whisky to a cuddly hedgehog. Thanks to all who donated a prize; they are very much appreciated. And last but not least we would like to thank Halkyn Community Council for their kind and generous donation.

*The Committee*

## **Rhosesmor Village Hall**

Over the Christmas break work was undertaken in the Glyn Morris Room. Besides a complete redecoration, the old floor, originally laid in 2005 as part of the hall refurbishment, was replaced. Also, during that week, two new fence panels were fitted, replacing those smashed to pieces in the recent storms.

In the previous Mountain News we mentioned the problems being experienced providing a Post office facility in the hall. After considerable patience by Win Garrock we are pleased to say all problems have been successfully overcome, and we now provide a Post Office every Friday between 2.00 and 4.00pm.

At the A.G.M. we managed to fit in a date for the next Jumble Sale. Put Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March in your diary. Donations of jumble (please, not clothing) can be collected if you phone Geoff on 780660.

Regarding book swap in the hall - have you any paperbacks you no longer want? If you want some cookery books maybe we can do a swap!

Finally, Jon Tarry on 780842 continues to be your contact for hiring rooms in the hall. Please note the hall is very well used so it is better to contact Jon well in advance to find out the availability.

*Geoff North*  
*Rhosesmor Village Hall Committee Secretary*

### **Pentre Halkyn Community Centre**

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

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

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

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

## **Full House, Greenhill Capers**

"Full House, Greenhill Capers" has been written by local writer, Mary Jones. Mary and her husband John ran Greenhill Farm and Greenhill Farm Guest House in Bryn Celyn, Holywell for 40 years. John's father was originally from Tyddyn Farm, Rhes y Cae and John and Mary have continued their links with Rhes y Cae and are both on the show committees. They have now retired to Lixwm which has given them more time to help out with the show and for Mary to write her book. Last summer John and Mary opened their garden in Lixwm under the National Garden Scheme, which was very successful in raising money for both the National Garden Scheme and for the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institute.

The book describes the changes in the Tourism Industry over the forty years and goes into great detail about the history of Flintshire and its merits for tourism. Mary was a long-term member of Flintshire Tourism Association, acting as Chairman for number of years. Along with membership of many other organisations she has contributed to the area in a number of roles including membership of Cadwyn Clwyd which supports local industries and organisations with grant funding.

After writing about how she became a Guest House Proprietor she goes on to tell stories about her many experiences, both funny and sad, with various guests over the years; including the lady who said, "It's a good job you have the cows, otherwise the grass would get long", through to the young gentleman who tried to climb in through her bedroom window! Many local people sent their friends and family to stay at Greenhill and one story tells of the poor bride who had to go to Halkyn Church on a JCB as heavy snow fell early on the morning of the wedding. The bridegroom's family, staying at Greenhill, were unable to go to the evening party.

Although the book does tell various 'Ghost' stories about Greenhill, which was built in the early fifteen hundreds, someone did say that, "You won't sell the book if it has no titillation in it". My answer to that was, 'Read the book'!

The book is available on Amazon as hard back or on Kindle or just ring John and Mary on 01352 781 829.

## **HALKYN MOUNTAIN DVD**

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

The DVD's are £5 each plus £1 P&P. Make cheques payable to "Flintshire County Council". Alternatively you can pop into the Visitor Centre at Wepre Park and save on the postage.

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

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



# Rhes y Cae News

## Village Hall Christmasy Coffee Morning – Saturday 17th November



The Village Hall committee decided to hold their Christmas coffee morning on a Saturday for a change, and to allow schoolchildren and people who work to attend. This seemed to be a good idea, as it was very well attended event, with lots of new faces. The craft stalls were a very interesting mix, with Christmas decorations and cards, felt and fabric gifts, and wooden models. Many thanks to all who came along, everyone who donated raffle prizes, and to all the craft stallholders for making this event such a success. The event raised £262, in aid of the 'Over 60s Christmas Dinner'.

We hope it will be repeated next year!

## Church Christmas Coffee Morning – Tuesday 27th November



Another popular event in the village hall! It was great to see so many people enjoying a chat and a mince pie. Sincere thanks to all who donated raffle and other prizes, and to all who came to support the event.

## Over 60's Christmas Party – Saturday 1st December



Thankfully there was no snow this year! The village hall looked lovely, and the food, as ever, was wonderful.

The Village Hall committee worked so hard to give everyone a warm welcome and an afternoon to



remember. Entertainment was provided by Matthew and Evie, who sang a mixture of old and new songs, accompanied by guitar and keyboard. They even had carol sheets so that everyone could join in! Hopefully, they will be back next Christmas! Many thanks to everyone on the committee for their hard work, and to all who donated raffle prizes.

## 'Around the Crib' service – Monday 24th December

This service is always popular, with families from across the mountain gathering in Rhes y Cae church on Christmas Eve. As always, Rev Hugh Burgess encouraged plenty of participation from the children, who loved finding the figures from the Christmas Story and bringing them to the crib. Colin Legg played the organ to accompany the traditional carols, and everyone left (with a little treat!) feeling ready for Christmas.

## New Year's Eve Party – Monday 31st December

This was a new event for Rhes y Cae, but it was so successful that it may well become an annual event. Around 50 people came together, bringing with them food and drinks, to see in the New Year at the Village Hall. There was music and dancing, and some games, which all added to the atmosphere of friendship and fun. Many thanks to the Village Hall committee, especially Jill for organising it and inviting people, and to Pat and Eirwen for their help, especially with the music.

## Future Dates

### Village Hall Coffee Morning

Tuesday 19th March - 10.30 to 12 noon.

### Rhes y Cae Church Easter Coffee Morning

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April, 10.30 – 12.00,  
at Rhes y Cae Village Hall.

### Big Breakfast

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April 10am -1pm, Rhes y Cae Village Hall. Raising money to support mental health charity MIND. Megan Hughes, granddaughter of Gwyneth, is running the London Marathon on 28<sup>th</sup> April to raise money for MIND (Megan's mum Judith is also running the London Marathon in aid of NW Cancer Research). Come along and enjoy a leisurely Sunday morning breakfast with the newspapers! We offer cooked and continental options, as well as veggie and gluten-free items.

### Annual Church Walk Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June.

Meet at The Upper Shippe Inn, Bagillt at 10.30 for a walk led by John Thomas.

Light refreshments will be served after the walk at the Upper Shippe. In aid of Rhes y Cae Church funds.

There is a warm welcome to everyone at the above events.

Please let me know if you have any information to put in the next edition by the last week in April 2019.

Many thanks

Gwyneth Hughes 01352 780371

## From your County Councillor

Although one sixth of 2019 we'll have passed before the spring edition of the Halkyn Mountain News is published, may I still wish everyone good fortune and health for the rest of the year? Unfortunately, unless one is an inveterate optimist, the future looks very bleak; but more of that later.

For many older folk 2018 ended quite well, thanks to all the efforts and hard work which willing volunteers did to provide special Christmas dinners for the elderly. These Festive occasions were greatly appreciated and they were first class example of goodwill in a society which seems to be more and more obsessed with selfish or self-centred lives.

One of the highlights of the Christmas season was the inspiring and superb Carol concert held in Ebeneser chapel. Again, our warmest thanks go to the great performers at that wonderful community occasion.

It is disappointing that there are still complaints about it excessive blasts coming from the quarries, despite the fact that the quarry managers abide by the very strict rules and practices which govern their work. I myself have experienced very loud bangs and tremors and I can understand people's concerns. The detonation of explosives is not a casual or haphazard act and all blasting is recorded meticulously. There are physical factors involved: the quality of the rock, weather conditions, the site within the quarry. If people are concerned or even frightened by a particular blast they should report it, giving date and time and it will be investigated. The quarry authorities are most anxious to be good neighbours. Over the past 12 months teams from the quarries have been engaged in doing work in public buildings for the benefit of local communities, for which many thanks.

Now comes the hardest part of this letter, trying to explain the council budgets for 2019-2020. At the most recent meeting of the full County Council the proposed budget was not accepted and a motion was passed, unanimously requesting that the finance department make every effort to lower the proposed increase of 8½ per cent (there was the possibility last autumn of a 15 per cent rise, but that estimate has been considerably reduced).

A major factor which affects the council's decision is the "Local Government Settlement" sent by the Welsh government. When this settlement becomes less Flintshire county council has to try to find other sources or methods are increasing income. At this stage that is almost impossible. The Council's Cabinet has asked the council to make a final request for an improved settlement. The council has already been forced to make reductions, against its wishes, in social care and education. In spite of special requests to Welsh Government for an improved settlement, this has not materialised. The only way to balance the budget is to increase council tax and to draw on reserves and contingency funds, but these are already desperately low. (The council used £6,179,000 from reserves in 2018-2019.) Some reserves are earmarked for specific purposes.

The whole problem is extremely complicated and the fact that Flintshire county council is not one of the richer councils does not help. In previous editions, I have pointed out that Flintshire county council receives £250 per person per year. Less than some councils, particularly in South Wales. Unless there is in radical change in the formula which Welsh Government uses then the council will face a Herculean challenge in trying to produce a balanced budget and, at the same time, maintain the wide range of essential services for which it has a mandatory duty.

I'm sorry to be the bearer of unwelcome news and I apologise if I have over simplified the problems. The harsh truth is that we are all in line for quite a hard time; at least in the near future. Friday 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019 is the final date for the council to approve a balanced budget. In spite of being a Job's Comforter, I still wish everyone a pleasant and refreshing spring.

*Colin Legg, C.C.*

## Halkyn O50 Club

We are the Halkyn Over Fifties! We are a social group who meet on the first Monday of the month at the Blue Bell Inn, Halkyn at 2pm. Our meetings include talks on all manner of subjects. These are provided by speakers from outside our group and occasionally our own members.

Recent topics have included talks on Lleweni Hall near Denbigh and the John Summers Family. Lleweni Hall was the home of big North Wales Landowners the Salusbury family.

We also organise visits to places of interest. For this we hire a minibus which picks us up at the Village Hall. These visits always involve a meal. Planned for this summer are steam train and canal trips. We also go on excursions with Voel Coaches who also pick us up at the Village Hall.

In the winter months we organise trips to the theatre. One of these is usually a Pantomime. Again we organise a meal in a pub or restaurant.

**Our next meeting is on April 1<sup>st</sup>.** Everybody welcome. For further information phone 01352 781 412.

The photo shows members enjoying a coffee break at Llyn Brenig.





## Halkyn Parish Hall

### Private Functions and Meetings

The hall is available for private functions including weddings, christenings, birthday parties, etc.  
Bar and catering facilities can be arranged.

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

## Weekly Diary

### Monday

Yoga 6:30 - 8:00 pm.  
Contact Jenny 01352 780681

### Tuesday

Baby & Toddler Group 9:30 to 11:00 am  
Zumba 6.00 - 7.00 pm.  
Contact: zumbawithvix@gmail.com  
Snooker Club 7:30 pm.  
(New members welcome)  
Contact Andy Wood 780159)

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

### Wednesday

Modern Line Dancing 12:45 - 14:45 pm.  
Contact Julie on 07712149439  
Ukulele Tuition 5.45 - 6.45pm  
Church Coffee Morning 9.30 - 11.30am  
1st Wednesday in the month  
Bingo (every other Wednesday) 7.30 pm.  
(For more information on the Bingo call:  
Carolyn on 01352 781765)

### Thursday

Halkyn W.I. 7.15 pm April to Oct  
2:15 pm Nov. to March

### Friday

Post Office 2.30 - 4.30 pm  
Library 1:30 - 7:00 pm.  
Halkyn Brownies 6:00 - 7:00 pm.  
(Term time only) Contact Karen 716027

### Weekend

Heartfelt Art & Craft 2018 10 am - 3:00 pm.  
**Saturday 30th March, Saturday 18th May**  
(Contact: Sue Parry-Harwood on 01352 781088)  
or email: heartfelt.mountainstudio@aol.co.uk

Halkyn Mountain Cinema

**Saturday 23rd March  
"A Star is Born"**

See item in HMN for contact details.

## A few words from Danny the Donkey



Just as I thought we were having a reasonably mild winter, suddenly the snow and frosts arrived and it became quite chilly. It was therefore a lovely surprise when my human friends arrived home in their donkey-less cart and came to my stable carrying a lovely new coat. The colour looks like evening sky trimmed with the colour of holly berries. They put it on me and it fitted well and is perfect for the current weather. I already had a coat but it was one that had belonged to my mother and was beginning to show signs of age.

I feel very fortunate to have a smart new coat. I sometimes see dogs passing by wearing coats but have never seen any other animals with anything but their natural coats. I am thankful that sheep don't have them as I know there would be much competition and debate as to who had the best one. Humans seem to like wearing coats and even ones which cover their heads which must make grazing very difficult. I do wonder how humans lost their fur. It is one of the many mysteries of life.

I consider myself very lucky to live in a nice place and to have good human friends, a comfortable stable and good food. I also appreciate all the people who come to see me and bring me tasty apples and carrots and know that there are many less fortunate donkeys.

I enjoy sharing my thoughts in Halkyn Mountain News and understand that one kind reader offered to arrange for another donkey to be brought from a home for donkeys a long way away, to live with me and keep me company. While I am grateful that someone was thinking of me and for this person's kindness, but I have given much thought to this and I think I would prefer to stay as I am. While I now live alone, I have plenty of visitors and the company of other animals and my human friends. It would worry me that I might not enjoy the company of a new donkey, who might have habits I am not used too. They might be from a warmer climate and do nothing but complain about the mountain weather. It wouldn't be pleasant to have to listen to complaints all evening in the stable. While in theory I don't mind sharing my home and food, it has also crossed my mind that they might not be used to sharing and I might have to compete for my food. That wouldn't do! If it were a donkey that didn't stop chatting (or even worse snored) I think I would be driven to distraction. A "blind-date" with no way out sounds a little scary to me.

Although the weather has been cold, it is sometimes nice to get comfortable in my stable, listen to sounds outside and count carrots until I drift off to sleep. I count my blessings and forgive myself for being a little selfish for not welcoming another donkey. I'll try and be especially nice to the sheep tomorrow to make up for it.

Bye for now,

Danny

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



## Moriah/Penbryn Chapels

Sunday 9th December was a sad day in the life of Moriah Chapel in Holywell. After 148 years of worship, beginning in a small row of cottages opposite where the chapel was erected in 1899 the final service was held at Penbryn chapel.

My grandmother and her siblings were born a cottage in that row, attended the Sunday school in the same row and each gave a penny for a brick for the building of the chapel which opened when my nana was four years old.

Penbryn chapel (photo) kindly gave the membership of Moriah sanctuary when the building in Pen y Maes was declared unsafe and finally demolished in 2011. Since then that is where the services have been held.



The finances of the chapel were healthy and at the final service the treasurer read out a list of those charities (both local and international) who have benefited from the distribution of its funds.

Delyth McIntyre (one of the mainstays of the chapel for many years) gave a poignant and moving reminiscence of some of the memories throughout the years and of how much it had achieved in and enriched the community. Sadly, since the move, numbers had dwindled and it seemed no longer viable to bring preachers in to a small congregation.

My mother and I were members and very involved for many years - she attended Sunday school there and we both taught and were Sunday school superintendents there. I have recently rejoined and made to feel welcome as though I had never been away - sadly this was only for the last few services. But I was privileged to be there, among a large congregation, for the final service to remember the stalwarts of 'the little chapel on the hill'.

Another part of the rich religious heritage of Holywell has now sadly passed. The minister in his last words asked of the congregation, "Where do we all move on from here as we worship in our separate ways. What do we want to achieve?"

As I listened to his words I realised that I would like to try to turn this sad occasion into something positive and would love to see a revival of the friendship and fellowship which was once so prevalent in all of the churches in Holywell and indeed in the drama group which once provided so much entertainment for the community.

It is therefore my intention to celebrate and combine that community spirit by producing a community play on the life of Christ. This will be a full length production, large scale and (hopefully) outdoor and I take this opportunity to invite anyone who thinks that they might be able to help make this unique occasion happen (on stage or back stage) to get in touch with me.

Help me to help to get the community spirit back into Holywell in 2019!

Andrea Yarnell Dakin      Phone: 01352 711 240  
email: [yarnell2017@gmail.com](mailto:yarnell2017@gmail.com)

## Posture

### How to Short Circuit your Brain's Bad Habits

The bad postural habits that you learn over a lifetime are hard wired into your brain. If you want to develop a better posture you need to retrain your brain and not your body. Here's how.

We develop bad posture for several reasons for example:

We learn it from our family and friends without even realising we are doing it.

When we are young, we copy the poses of those we admire.

We use postures that we find easier in our work life, for example slumping over a desk.

Short term injury, for example a sprained ankle, can cause us to change how we stand. Then when we get better, we don't regain our old posture.

If somebody points out that your shoulders are slumped, and your chin is jutting forward you look in the mirror and try to adjust your posture so that you look better. That's fine, but when you move away from the mirror you relapse. You realise that changing your posture is going to take a bit more effort.

So, you straighten your back, pull your chin in and drop your shoulders. You try to maintain this posture all day but as soon as you stop thinking about it your bad posture returns. You feel like you are in a battle with yourself; you feel tired and drained from the effort and your neck and shoulders ache from trying to hold this new posture. This approach does not work because you are actually in a battle with yourself. It is the subconscious part of your brain that controls your posture. You are trying to change deeply embedded neurological patterns with your conscious mind. You will not win this battle. Instead you will end up in pain and frustrated.

The way to change your posture is through:

Gentle repetition

Engaging the felt sense

Rather than trying to force your body to change you should gently and often find the right posture. Breathe deeply while feeling into your body, notice any tensions, let them release. So, you find a good posture that feels comfortable, not too stiff. By doing this you are sending a friendly message to your brain and your brain will recognise that you are in a good posture. Once you have taken a few breaths forget everything. Don't try to hold the good posture; posture should be natural, you should not have to think about it. Practice this frequently in the same way as you would gently direct a child, and your body/brain will respond like a child and you will find yourself in better posture naturally and easily.

Steve Massey  
St Asaph Chiropractic Clinic  
01745 535854

## Our Country Cottage

In 1989, and with retirement looming, my husband and I decided to move from the Wirral, where we had spent all our married life, and into Wales. After some time, we found the very place – an old cottage, named Bryn Awel, in much need of renovation, in Moel y Crio, and put our own property on the market.

Upon completion of the sale in 1993, the solicitor informed us that there were some very old documents in the house file, which nobody over the years had seemed to want, and asked if we might like them. Being very interested in the history of the property, we gladly gave them house room, and started on a very interesting journey of discovery.

It would appear that the land had first been owned by Her Majesty's Commissioners of Forests and Woods, possibly a forerunner of the Forestry Commission. We know that there is, to this day, a small wood at the back of Moel Fagnallt – but could there have been a much bigger area of woodland covering the area at that time? There is a small tithe map of the land on which the cottage now stands, drawn by hand, accompanying this document, dated 1804, but land only and, as yet, there was no dwelling built on it. It shows 2 numbered plots – 608 and 609, totalling about two thirds of an acre in the ownership of Tan-y-Bryn (a cottage still standing today, and also much extended), to the rear of the land, and tenanted at that time by a Catherine Samuel. Ancestry searches have revealed no trace of her. By 1827, another tithe map shows a dwelling having been built on the land, (plot 609) now in the tenancy of Thomas Davies.

The first, and most interesting, document, we found was a beautifully crafted Conveyance – almost 2 feet in dimension, written on a good quality parchment with scalloped edges, and written in quill pen. It shows the sale of the cottage and land, also another 'parcel of land' in Berth Ddu (location not delineated) by Mr. John Beaven, a farmer from Northop Green, Northop, to William James a farmer of 48 acres at Bryn Nannerch, Nannerch.

In 1841, Bryn Awel was still in the tenancy of Thomas Davies, (1811-1876), a lead miner, and his wife, Ann, 1816-1883, as well as their 2 young children. By 1851,

the Davies's had moved to another property, still in Voel y Crio, and Bryn Awel was now occupied by William Parry and his wife, Arabella. In this census, properties were just shown as Voel y Crio, and not delineated by name, although the most prominent properties were named. William is shown in the census as a 'hod carrier at Cilcain Hall' which gives a good indication of when the Hall was built. The couple had 8 children, amongst them a son called Thomas, born in 1841, and who bought the cottage in 1866 from William James for just £50.

Thomas died in 1914 and his daughter Mary Elizabeth Parry, now married to William Kyffin Lloyd from Cilcain, and living at their farm, Dolfechlas Isa, also in Cilcain, inherited Bryn Awel, along with another property in Berth Ddu, and a further property in Pant Glas, Mold (now the new large housing estate in the centre of Sychdyn).

After that, the property was rented out to a Jack Morris, a butcher from Holywell, and finally to the Blackwell family, Edward Albert and his wife Mary Elizabeth (nee Hughes), between 1926 and 1969.

Edward was killed in a mining accident in 1929, and Mary raised 7 children almost completely on her own – I take my hat off to her!

Has anybody anything further to add to my research? If so, I would dearly love to hear from you.

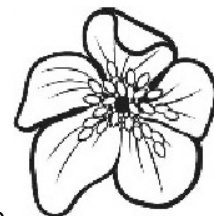
Tel: 01352 781277.

I also have quite a bit more information on most of the families mentioned, including comprehensive family trees, and snippets of family history, so would be only too glad to help any interested parties.

Jean Walker

## Hardy Plant Society Clwyd Group

We are a friendly gardening club.  
We enjoy talks and garden visits.



Meetings are held at 7.30pm at the Holywell Community Centre (by the Leisure Centre) on the third Tuesday of the month. There are also plant sales, a raffle and refreshments at meetings.

Visitors welcome - £3 admission.

Membership is available.

Information on 07768 423 965

or [clwyd@hardy-plant.org.uk](mailto:clwyd@hardy-plant.org.uk)

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

The spring programme is:

**Tuesday 19 March** talk,

Herbs and Spices through the Ages, Jan Edington  
Culinary surprises on night. Short Annual Review.

**Tuesday 16 April** talk, History and  
Developments of Ness Gardens, Tim Baxter

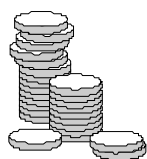
**Sunday 19 May PLANT SALE** 10.30am -1.30pm  
FREE ADMISSION, public welcome, many stalls.

Programme can be subject to change.

### HALKYN PARISH HALL BINGO

*Doors Open at 7.10pm*

*Come along and have some fun  
A night of Bingo for everyone*



*Light refreshments served to you  
Cash pay outs and a raffle too*



*Halkyn Parish Hall is where it's at*

*On Wednesday night and every other after that*

*March 6th and 13th and so on with me.*

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

## Capel Salem, Pentre Halkyn

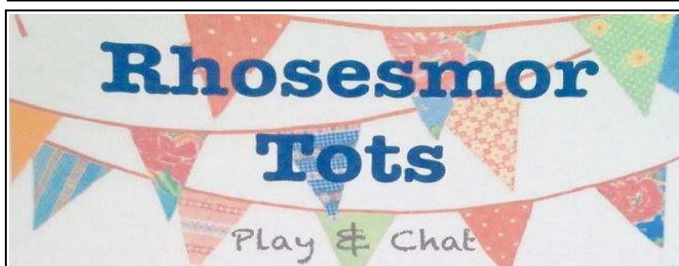
Gwasanaethau/Services at 2pm.

C = Communion, W = Welsh, E = English

March	3rd	Rev Marc Morgan	C	W
	10th	Rev. Maureen Roberts	E	
	17th	Mrs. Delyth Davies	W	
	24th	Miss Angela Bebbington	E	
	31st	No Service		

April	7th	Mrs. Delyth McIntyre	E	
	14th	Miss Angela Bebbington	E	
	21st	Rev Marc Morgan	C	W
	28th	No Service		

May	5th	Rev. Marc Morgan	W	
	12th	Mr Peter Sinclair	E	
	19th	Mr David Barker Jones	W	
	26th	No Service		



**Every Thursday 9.15-11.15  
at Rhosesmor Village Hall**

**£2 for parent & toddler(s)  
50p for parent & baby**

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

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

## Rhes-y-Cae Village Hall

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

Children's parties for 11 year old and under.

**Reasonable Rates**

Contact Kevin Lewis - 01352 780297

## Capel Bethel y Nant

**Gwasanaeth 2.30 Service  
Do join us every Sunday**

March	3rd	Eric Greene
	10th	Glyn Thomas
	17th	Maureen Roberts
	24th	Shân Morris
	31st	Delyth McIntyre

April	7th	Own arrangement
	14th	Maureen Roberts
	21st	Own arrangement
	28th	Angela Bebbington

May	5th	Own arrangement
	12th	<i>Cymanfa Ganu</i> <i>Fflint a Threffynnon</i> <i>Berthen Licswm 6.00pm</i>
	19th	Angela Bebbington
	26th	Huw Powell Davies

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

## Halkyn Library

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

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



**Library Online  
Services via  
[www.flintshire.gov.uk](http://www.flintshire.gov.uk)**

## Tinytots Playgroup

Wales Preschool Playgroup Association

**Tinytots Playgroup**  
Learning Through Play

Tinytots Playgroup  
C/o Ysgol Rhos Helyg,  
Rhosesmor  
CH7 6PJ  
01352 780265





# Rhosesmor Memories Book Launch

**Come and join us as we celebrate the launch of the new book featuring photos and anecdotes from the village's past.**

**Copies of the book will be available for sale on the day with all proceeds going to Ysgol Rhos Helyg.**

**Refreshments will be available**

**Village Hall, Rhosesmor**

**Saturday 6th April 2019**

**Opens 2.00 pm**

**DENBIGH & FLINT  
SHOW**  
AND FOOD  
FESTIVAL

**SIOE**  
A GWYL FWYD  
**DINBYCH A FFLINT**

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**Please contact the secretary for any further information,  
and we look forward to seeing you on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2019**

## Ysgol Rhos Helyg

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

### Christmas at Rhos Helyg

Once again we have been exchanging Christmas decorations with other schools from European countries in order to decorate our Christmas Tree.

We have learnt about the Christmas Traditions in other European Countries.



### Father Christmas

came to visit our Foundation Pupils. He asked the children what they wanted for Christmas and he kindly brought each of them a small gift.



The School Choir performing at the Charity concert at The Springfield Hotel.



The Infant Christmas Show was The Disgruntled Snowman, whilst the Juniors sang a medley of Christmas themed songs.



The Juniors visited Theatre Clwyd to enjoy the panto 'Dick Whittington'. It was a huge treat to see some of our staff performing on stage.



The Choir singing Christmas carols to the patients at Holywell Community Hospital.

### Christmas Dinner

It is a real team effort to make and serve Christmas dinner.

The PTA kindly supplied crackers for everyone.



Pupils from the Foundation Phase visited Rhyl Pavilion to watch 'Aladdin' as a Christmas treat.

### Snow

Despite the snow and ice closing all Flintshire Schools, the pupils enjoyed playing in the snow on their return to school.





### Tea with Santa

This was another popular event at school at Christmas Time.



We were grateful to the PTA for organising this event.

### Writing Christmas Stories

Pupils in Early Years have been writing fabulous stories.



### Christmas Fair

Our Christmas Fair moved to a new time slot of straight after school this year and this proved to be a popular move.



It is a nice time for the school community to gather and have a chat and to do some shopping!

### Infant Christmas Party

The party games were a big hit but the party food was the treat.



### Christmas Craft



### Making Anderson Shelters



As part of topic work pupils have firstly been researching types of shelters used in World War 2, before making models of their own shelter.

### Visit from a local farmer

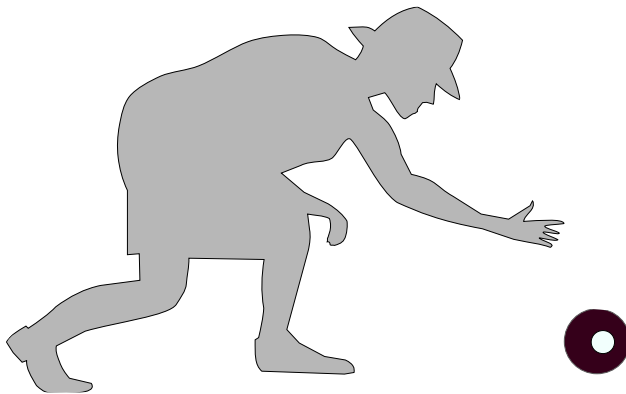
Year 1 and 2 have had a visit from Farmer Sigsworth and a cute little lamb. The children have been asking lots of questions about life on a farm and how to look after the farm animals.





# Sports Clubs

## ***Halkyn & District Bowling Club***



When I think about bowls I think of a warm, sunny day and sending a bowl across a beautiful green - better than anyone else - I can dream. I will have to wait a couple of months then it will be all systems go.

We are looking forward to our new green. It has had a complete make-over. It was a very expensive project but very necessary. The standard of our green was always excellent, but not recently. You need a good green to play good bowls.

In the winter we play indoor bowls in Flint. This is very necessary to me personally. It gets me out, it's exercise and very social. So if anyone feels the same as me you can come and join us. It gets you away from this bad winter weather.

Halkyn has two indoor teams - Halkyn and the Leftovers. We have had some excellent wins, but not that many. The Leftovers were promoted last year and this year the Halkyn team has a good chance of going up. There's a little rivalry between the two teams, but we just support each other.

At the moment we are negotiating a new lease with Flint Council. We are hoping we can come to an agreement we can afford. It will be a 25 year lease. We think it's going to be expensive but somehow we will keep the bowls club going. The more members we have the easier that will be.

Now, something you can all look forward to. It's our opening day on **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 2.00pm**. We would like everyone to come, even if you aren't bowlers. Just look at what goes on and what is available. You may be surprised. We have the reputation for being the friendliest club anywhere.

Well, here's to our new season. Hope to see you all.

Contact numbers:

Pat McDermott 781057

Julie Lewis 781212

Jo Woodruff 781276

## ***Halkyn Cricket Club***



Preparations are well underway for the new season, which starts on Saturday 20th April.

Halkyn 1st XI make the short trip to Marchwiel whilst Halkyn 2nd XI have a home encounter with Llandudno 2nd XI.

Indoor net sessions are currently taking place at Holywell Leisure Centre on Sundays between 2pm -3pm. For further details please contact Rana Dey 07815 134 363.

New players of any ability are most welcome to attend.

### **Halkyn CC Clubhouse**

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

We offer the clubhouse FREE to any community groups or schools and have a reduced hire rate for children's parties UNDER 13.

For further details please contact Jane Williams on 01352 781 523 or 07732 325 033.

*Keith Williams, Secretary*

## Holywell Golf Club

### Am-Am 13<sup>th</sup> December

The weather affected play and a majority of the afternoon players were unable to complete their round. The early starters recorded the best scores. Congratulations to 1<sup>st</sup> Ian Walker, Brian Law, Keith Smith and Steve Davies; 2<sup>nd</sup> Rob Jones, Pete Bowell, Kevin Leech and Luke Pilkington Jones. Nearest the pin on the 12<sup>th</sup> was Ian Smith and nearest the pin on the 15<sup>th</sup> was Tim Costidell.



### Annual Christmas Golf 14th December

It was a very cold day when members played their annual Christmas competition and the course never thawed out, but 52 players braved the cold. Nevertheless there were some brilliant scores.

**Division 1:** 1<sup>st</sup> Mal Payne, 2<sup>nd</sup> Graham Williams.

**Division 2:** 1<sup>st</sup> Lawrence Hughes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ivo Civicchioni.

**Ladies Prize:** Maureen Bibby. There were only two birdie two's, Dave Bell and Geraint Jones. Nearest the pin on the 11<sup>th</sup> was Tim Saunders and on the 12<sup>th</sup> Geraint Jones. Congratulations to all the winners.

### Boxing Day Cross Country

The cross country competition has been a great favourite for many years this year was no exception. It was 11 degrees sunny and no wind. This competition is played on a modified course to make it more interesting. Forty four players took advantage of the good weather.

**Division 1:** 1<sup>st</sup> Alistair Ross, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tim Saunders.

**Division 2:** 1<sup>st</sup> Geoff Jennings, 2<sup>nd</sup> Danny Pierce.

### 3 Man Texas Scramble 29th December

1<sup>st</sup> Russ Williams, Danny Pierce and Steve Jones; 2<sup>nd</sup> Mike O'Boyle, Moi Parry and Mal Reed.

Nearest the pin on the 12<sup>th</sup> Ray Matthews and on the 15<sup>th</sup> Paul Seaburg.

### Stableford 5<sup>th</sup> January

100 players took part in the January Stableford taking advantage of the calm and dry conditions.

**Division 1:** Mel Petrie and Cliff Edwards.

**Division 2:** Howard Elliot-Jones and Terry Chaloner.

**Division 3:** Dan Hayes and Bill Lawson.

Nearest the pin on the 12<sup>th</sup> Cliff Edwards and nearest the pin on the 15<sup>th</sup> Les Brown.

### Holywell Ladies

Once again the lady members of Holywell were joined by past members and friends for their Christmas lunch. They had a splendid meal and everyone had a great time. After the meal there was a presentation for the extra competitions that were held through the year and Lady Captain, Mrs Linda Leech, presented the winners with their vouchers.

### Holywell Seniors

Holywell seniors held their Annual Christmas lunch at Holywell Golf Club in December and as usual it was well attended. Their Chairman, Kevin Leech, welcomed them and after lunch they had their presentation. The major prize winners were presented with their trophies and also the Turkey Trot winners were given their vouchers. The Turkey Trot takes place on the weeks coming up to Christmas and the winners can choose if they want a voucher from the professional shop or they can get a voucher for our local butchers.

### Holywell Juniors

#### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November

**Red Tees:** 1<sup>st</sup> Cian Hughes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Harrison Prior.

**Silver Tees:** 1<sup>st</sup> Caiden Morris, 2<sup>nd</sup> Poppy Jones.

#### Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December

**Red Tees:** 1<sup>st</sup> Cian Hughes, 2<sup>nd</sup> Matthew Malone.

**Silver Tees:** 1<sup>st</sup> Caiden Morris, 2<sup>nd</sup> Harrison Prior.

The juniors have had their own nine hole silver tee course on the front nine for the nearly three years now and it has proved a great success. We are now in the process of extending it for another nine holes so the juniors will then have eighteen holes especially for them. We hope it will be ready for their February competition. The junior weekly coaching with our pro, Josh, will resume in March. Anybody is welcome. Josh has been with the club for a year now and has proved a great success with the juniors and the other members of the club.

### Children's Christmas Party

Once again Holywell golf Club Hosted the children's Christmas party. Over 50 children attended, the noise was deafening. Dazzle the Clown made it more fun. After the entertainment finished it was time for Father Christmas. He arrived on the Float and the noise was even worse. He then handed out presents for the children.

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