



# Halkyn Mountain News

Issue 179 - Winter 2019

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## The Bee Orchid

### A Halkyn Mountain Treasure

Exotic, seductive and beguiling orchids have a unique power to captivate. Orchids are special, but it is difficult to say exactly why. They are rare, some very rare. They are exotic yet there are over 50 different orchids growing wild in Britain. They are mysterious - it's often thought they flower only every seven years and are parasitic on other plants - neither of which is true. And they are beautiful.

Many of our wild orchids have flowers which mimic wild creatures such as the Frog Orchid, Monkey Orchid or Fly orchid. There is even a Lady Orchid, a Man Orchid and a Soldier Orchid. The flowers of the Man Orchid resemble little men with a head, arms and legs; but you must travel to the south of England to see it.

Then there is the famous Lady's Slipper Orchid, which was collected and uprooted by the Victorians resulting in its virtual extinction. It only ever grew in the north of England. By 1980 only one wild clump remained, carefully guarded in a secret, remote valley in Yorkshire. Botanists had tried for years to propagate it with no success. Finally, a botanist at Kew, London managed to germinate the seed in a special culture, and hundreds of plants have been successfully re-introduced back into the wild.

There is also the Ghost Orchid! It is so rare that it has only been seen a few times in the last 50 years, growing in dark, shady beech woods.

Most wild orchids are very specific in their growing needs and, luckily for us in this area, very many of these beautiful plants need alkaline soil conditions. Chalk and limestone localities are the haunt of many of our rare orchids. Prestatyn, Trelawnyd, Brynford and Ysgeifiog are all good botanizing areas.

Halkyn Mountain has its own special treasure - the fabulous Bee Orchid. As the name suggests the flower mimics a bee and has indeed evolved to attract male bees as pollinators. It flowers from June to July. There are several colonies on the mountain and this year several flowering spikes were protected and thus were able to produce seed, which was successfully dispersed. Several groups of people have been taken to see these beautiful orchids and most were amazed that such an exotic looking plant could thrive and bloom in such an exposed situation.

All known plants have been carefully monitored, officially mapped and the results reported to Cofnod in Bangor (Cofnod is a database used to collect information on all types of wildlife in north Wales which can then be used to inform government policies). It is hoped that this iconic orchid will flower on Halkyn Mountain for many years to come



*Halkyn Mountain Bee Orchid  
photographed mid June 2019*

**Please submit items by February 1st for issue 180, which should be out in March 2020.**

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. It is always good to hear positive feedback and we know that Halkyn Mountain News is enjoyed and valued by our community. In addition to keeping up with the news, we know that residents use it as a local trade directory and that our advertisers receive a good response.

Our newsletter relies on volunteers. We have a small editorial team which deals with the process of co-ordination of articles and contributions, transcribing and design, liaison with advertisers, writing of articles, proof reading, processing of payments and bookkeeping, dealing with the printer, and collating and delivering in batches to a small army of volunteer deliverers and other outlets. It is fair to say that the bulk of the design and publishing work is undertaken by one of our team. We would very much like to see Halkyn Mountain News continue to thrive. Financially, the paper is secure and self-funding. We also have a loyal band of advertisers and contributors. However, we now need more volunteers to join our team.

**We therefore make a heartfelt plea to readers for new volunteers as, unless we can secure additional help, it is possible that Halkyn Mountain News could be published for the last time during 2020.**

**We are sure that everyone would agree that this is something that we wish to avoid, as it would be a very sad event indeed.**

Our most urgent need is for volunteers who:  
have bookkeeping skills,  
are happy to liaise with advertisers,  
have an amateur interest in desk top publishing.

We would also welcome anyone who would just like to help where needed and to join in the collating of the copies for our delivery team.

We are also looking for people who would be willing to take on small delivery rounds in Pentre Halkyn and Halkyn.

If you can spare a little of your time to join us and to secure the future of Halkyn Mountain News for 2020 and beyond, please telephone either Robin Smith on 01352 781856 or Jack McIntyre on 01352 780377 or alternatively email [hmnews@btinternet.com](mailto:hmnews@btinternet.com)

As always, this edition is available at the Halkyn Community Council website [www.halkyn.org.uk](http://www.halkyn.org.uk) where photographs can be viewed in colour.

### ***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.***

## Rare Breeds

At the time of going to print, the abundance of hawthorn berries adds a red glint to the hedgerows and holly berries too are ripening. The rich habitat of our mountain attracts a wide variety of visitors. We are always on the lookout for seasonal visitors and there is a certain excitement when spotting a Red Kite or hearing the first Cuckoo of spring.

During early December, residents of the mountain may expect to spot another infrequent visitor - the Election Campaigner. These are said to be quite a rare breed, more commonly spotted in heavily populated areas. Those who visit our villages are most often seen individually or in small groups but rarely in breeding pairs. It is an unseasonal species and their migration into the area is more frequently dictated by environmental conditions.

Anyone with the patience to sit awaiting their arrival may expect to see a variety of colours. The reds and blues being the most common but the yellows and even mixed red/yellows are increasing in number. Greens have also been spotted. It is said that climate change has provided the environment for these to significantly increase in number and to thrive in a variety of areas. The most rare of the species has little colour at all, but these have not been seen in the area in living memory.

Whatever the colour, generally Election Campaigners remain a rare breed and it can be interesting to observe the very different characteristics displayed by individuals. However tempting to do so, it is usually best to avoid feeding. This can encourage most breeds to congregate around your property and unless you have specific experience, this may cause disturbance or annoyance to neighbours. If you do wish to encourage them and to risk feeding, biscuits provide a readily available option. The use of kitchen leftovers should be avoided completely, as anything tainted with HP Sauce can cause unpredictable reaction in this breed.

As with most creatures, it is probably best not to disturb them and to allow them to go about their business. The occasional individual has been known to tap at doors and it should be noted that it is possible to interact safely should you wish to do so. Having said that, beware that positive interaction may encourage individual specimens to make repeat visits in future years.

Observers may note that the Election Campaigner travels in an orderly manner, and has a tendency to visit properties rather than heading to open countryside. Colonisation of an area is unusual and while under normal circumstances they are usually placid, they may become agitated when colours mix and there is historic evidence of aggressive incidents in various parts of the country.

Residents should note that while this is not an endangered species it is illegal to capture them and whether or not they can be tamed remains debateable.

Happy spotting!

*Robin Smith*

## **Halkyn Mountain Living Landscape Project**

Three successful public events took place as part of the Halkyn Mountain Living Landscape project. The purpose of the events is to encourage people to interact with the landscape of the Common and have a go at some heritage skills.

The first saw instructors from Breese Adventures deliver a course on the basics of navigation using a good old fashioned map and compass. The instructors who run some pretty serious Mountain Leader courses in Snowdonia and expeditions to Kilimanjaro admitted that the landscape on the mountain proved to be somewhat trickier than they anticipated! There were paths on the map that weren't on the ground and vice versa. There were sheep tracks that looked like established paths and official paths that looked little more than sheep tracks. Plenty to keep the budding navigators on their toes!



*Getting to grips with grid references before heading out onto the mountain*

The second event saw renowned basket maker Mandy Coates show us how to make beautiful and useful baskets from willow. Everyone went home with their own hand crafted basket and the new-found knowledge of what can be achieved with not just willow, but other common hedgerow species.



*Happy basket makers*

The third event was a spoon carving workshop. Carving a spoon from green wood is a satisfying and therapeutic process. Participants learned about the different qualities of native trees and how to use the carving tools safely.



*Hand carved birch serving spoon*

The uptake for the events has been very positive. Two more courses are planned for December, but they are fully booked.

We have more events coming up in 2020. Events include weaving willow plant supports, basketry, natural dyes, felt making, spoon carving and turning wooden bowls on a foot powered lathe!

Have a look at Flintshire Countryside Service's Countryside and Coast page on Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/Flintshire-Countryside-and-Coast-148361282462474/](https://www.facebook.com/Flintshire-Countryside-and-Coast-148361282462474/)

*Saul Burton*

*Halkyn Mountain Living Landscape Officer*

## **Capel Bethel y Nant**

**Gwasanaeth Carolau - Carol Service**  
Bilingual

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> Dec. Dydd Sul Rhag y 15<sup>ed</sup>  
Am 2.00 o'r gloch

Paned a mins pei!

CROESO CYNNES I BAWB!  
A WARM WELCOME TO ALL!

## **Carmel Christian Fellowship**

*A very warm welcome to our*

**CAROL SERVICE**

6.00pm in Carmel Village Hall  
Sunday 15th December

Hope to see you there  
Refreshments provided



## Capel Salem, Pentre Halkyn

### Gwasanaethau/Services at 2pm.

C = Communion, W = Welsh, E = English

Dec.	1st	Rev. Hugh Burgess	E
	8th	No Service	
	15th	Miss Angela Bebbington (Bilingual Christmas Service)	
	22nd	Rev Marc Morgan	W
	29th	No Service	
Jan.	5th	Rev Marc Morgan	C W
	12th	Mrs Delyth McIntyre	E
	19th	No Service	
	26th	No Service	
Feb.	2nd	Rev. Marc Morgan	W
	9th	No Service	
	16th	Mr Peter Sinclair	E
	23rd	No Service	

A warm welcome to all.

## Capel Bethel y Nant

### Services 2.30pm every Sunday Do come and join us

December	1st	Delyth McIntyre
	8th	Shân Morris
	15th	Carol Service - 2.00pm

### Closed until February 2020

February	2nd	Maureen Roberts
	9th	Shân Morris
	16th	Marion Simkin
	23rd	Glyn Thomas

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

## Coffee Morning

Book Swap & Raffle  
At Rhosesmor Village Hall  
Every Other Monday Morning  
10:30 - 12:00



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

## Halkyn 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

From January 15th  
Ukulele Tuition 6.00 - 7.00pm  
Ukulele Club evening 7.00 - 9.00pm  
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

Halkyn Mountain Cinema  
**Saturday 11th January  
"Rocketman"**  
See item in HMN for contact details.

Heartfelt Art & Craft 2020 10 am - 3:00 pm.  
**Return on Saturday 7th March & 2nd May**  
(Contact: Sue Parry-Harwood on 01352 781088)  
or email: heartfelt.mountainstudio@aol.co.uk

## **Rhosesmor Village Hall**

### **Weekly Diary**

#### **HALL**

##### **Monday**

Coffee Morning 10.30 - 12.00  
Fortnightly  
Contact: Lynn Banks 781714  
RETROBICS-keep fit 6.00-7.00pm Weekly  
Contact: Lynn Fearnhead 780740

##### **Tuesday**

Yoga - Morning Weekly  
Yoga - Evening Weekly  
Contact: Karen 01352 759333

##### **Wednesday**

Tai Chi 11.00-12.00 Weekly  
Contact: 07563 985945  
PhilsHarmonics Age 3-6 4.00-4.45pm  
Choir (Weekly) Age 7+ 6.00-7.00pm  
Adults 7.00-9.00pm  
Contact: Phillipa 07660 833981

##### **Thursday**

Rhosesmor Tots 9.15-11.15  
Weekly in Term time  
Contact: Facebook Page/Lynn 780740  
French Language 10.00-12.00 Fortnightly  
Silver Movers Afternoon Weekly  
Contact: Ann Williams 780735

##### **Friday**

Cubs & Scouts Evening  
Weekly in Term time  
Contact: Graham Fredericks 780732

##### **Saturday**

Jewellery making Daytime every 4 weeks  
Contact: Alison Tarry 780842  
Board Games Daytime every 6 weeks  
Contact: John Tarry 780842

#### **COMMITTEE ROOM**

##### **Monday**

Exploring Faith 7.30-9.00pm Weekly  
Contact: Rev'd Hugh Burgess 01352 741646

##### **Tuesday**

Rhosesmor Artists' Club 2.00-4.00 Weekly  
Contact: Brian Fearnhead 780740

##### **Thursday**

W.I. Painting Group Evening Weekly  
Contact: Win Garoch 780824

## **Rhosesmor Community Garden**

Our Garden has continued to be a riot of colour throughout the Summer and now going into the Autumn. On Sunday 11th August we had a special Service to celebrate the Garden. Unfortunately, due to wet weather we had the service in Church, rather than in the garden as planned. Lots of people attended and the Church was full which was wonderful. We had a violin to accompany the service which was very special. Community prayers and individual names for remembrance, and a lovely poem were read out during the service and refreshments were served after.

Luckily the weather improved a little and we were able to visit the garden later. We also read the inspiring garden related verses that were placed along the path to and around the garden by John and Vicky. These are still in situ for anyone to read when visiting the garden. There is also a Picture Story Board in the Church which shows the journey of the Garden from beginning to now.

Our small volunteer group will be tidying up the garden soon for winter and then we look forward to Spring.

If anyone wishes to join our group or wishes to donate a plant, etc:

ring Viv Barlow on 07740 553601





# 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



## School Bus Service - Charge for Pupils

Parents of school children attended a meeting of the Community Council, to advise of their displeasure following a decision by Flintshire County Council about changes being made to school transport for pupils attending Mold Alun Campus. A letter sent to parents, which apparently was not sent to all parents, advised that from September 2019 the School bus service will operate in a different format. Pupils will have to pay a fee of £150 for a concessionary seat. In July 2020 the school bus service will be ended. Concern was expressed to the lack of consultation by the County, including the concern that children attending the Mold School could be moved to Holywell.

County & Community Councillor Miss. Jean Davies advised that she has been in contact with County Hall to address the concerns with County Officers and will keep parents advised.

## Hedge alongside B5123 Road in Rhosesmor (Opposite Tiger Tim)

The Community Council discussed the overgrown hedge running parallel with the B5123 road opposite Tiger Tim in Rhosesmor, together with the public footpath that runs through the adjacent field. The Community Council were advised by Flintshire County Council of the following: (1) Flintshire County Council confirmed that the land is in their ownership. (2) The County were in the process of approaching the Land Registry to amend ownership from Denbighshire County Council to Flintshire County Council. (3) Flintshire County Council confirm that there is no agreement with Halkyn Community Council, in relation to usage of the area of land, including the public footpath. (4) The Clerk advised that he had traced paperwork between the Halkyn Council and Flintshire County during 2007 and 2008. This correspondence related to the transfer of the area of land in question to the Community Council for £1.00. Unfortunately, the County Council did not continue with the transfer.

As Flintshire County Council confirm, that they are the owners of the land – which includes the public footpath – and that there is no agreement with Halkyn Council for use and or upkeep of the footpath – the County Footpath Officer has been asked to inspect the pathway and to place on their maintenance programme for the future.

## Criminal Offences Reported Within the Community

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

**Halkyn:** CEMEX Quarry / 1 x ASB Nuisance – Travellers on mountain in vans and motorbikes / 1 x Suspicious Circumstances – 33 x gas cylinders found discarded in Pant Quarry – including socks – which

suggested people had been going swimming / 1 x Road Related Offence – Pen Y Ball bridge - Off Road Bikers.

**Pentre Halkyn:** 1 x suspicious circumstances – Springfield Hill – caller thought they saw someone potentially trying to get into their neighbor's car. Male was described as tall wearing a big, dark jacket / 1 x Anti-social behavior environment at Cemex Quarry – off road bikes in the area for 20 minutes / 1 x Fraud – Caller has had a call from 01602 336319 with an automated message saying £630.00 has been moved from their account to an overseas account / 1 x Road Related Offence – Male has driven behind a horse closely whilst sounding his horn on narrow lane. Advice provided to driver of vehicle.



**Rhes y Cae:** 1 x ASB Nuisance – Yodel van drivers in the village driving at high speeds. Reported to Yodel who will investigate. GoSafe updated in regards to the speeding problems / 1 x ASB Environment – Numerous calls in about 4 off roaders near quarry / 1 x Theft – antique stone trough and a stone mushroom stolen / 2 x ASB Nuisance – 5 off road bikes by the play area on roads without helmets / 1 x Anti-Social behavior nuisance – Report of 5 youths on an off road quad bike up the mountain – blue Ford Fiesta involved / 1 x Dangerous Dogs – Large dog attack on ewe / 1 x Anti-Social Behavior environment – Caller reporting a van dropping off off-road bikes on the mountain. Verbal altercation between caller and bikers claiming they 'had permission from the farmer'. Caller managed to get pictures of van and vehicles.

**Rhosesmor:** 1 x Suspicious circumstances – Berth Ddu area – caller reporting that a male with a scouse accent had attended their property and asked to go into the garden to look at an electricity pole nearby. Manweb confirmed the person was genuine. Security advice given to caller / 1 x Theft – Caller reporting license plate had been stolen from the back of their car. Licence plate eventually found by owner / 1 x Burglary dwelling – unknown male has approached a property and walked in speaking in a Spanish accent and asking for water. Person walked into woods but returned to property and attempted to gain entry to upstairs / 1 x ASB nuisance – 4 x trial bikes riding around the mountain.

## Seat in Rhes y Cae:

The above seat is on grass opposite the former Rhes y Cae Primary School. A request has been made to the Community Council to give the seat some TLC and also relocate it to the children's play area.



The Community Council would be pleased to receive any information in relation to the ornate seat design, together with details as to when the seat was installed – and in particular, by whom.

#### **Planning Applications:**

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

Application number: 060019 – for proposed first floor extension above existing ground floor utility & WC to create master bedroom suite, at Quarry Farm, Rhosesmor Road, Northop / Application number: 060140 – for application for approval of details reserved by condition no: 14 (five year development scheme) attached to planning permission reference: 054768 – at Pant Y Pwll Dwr Quarry, Pentre Halkyn / Application number: 060068 – for construction of an all-weather horse-riding arena (20m x 4m) and widening of access from lane, to enable construction of above, at The Beeches, Rhosesmor / Application number: 060224 – for the erection of replacement porch, part replacement of existing sunroom, sunroom to the north east elevation and car port, at Dee House, Halkyn / Application number: 060370 – for installation of a wind turbine, at Dafarn Dywyll, Brynford Road, Pentre Halkyn.

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.

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

Application number: 059906 – for double garage, at Glasdir View, The Nant. Approved / Application number: 059959 – to prune 1 sycamore, at Top Lodge, Halkyn. No objection / Application number: 059800 – garage conversion to residential etc., at 17 Llys Dedwydd, Pentre Halkyn. Approved / Application number: 059833 – single storey side and rear extension, at Terfyn, Waen Y Gaer, Moel y Crio. Approved / Application number: 059925 – existing LV service line – respective planning for a 2nd underground supply, at Slip Inn Farm, Halkyn. Approved / Application number: 06004 – for retrospective application for change of use of agricultural land to touring caravan storage, at Fron Farm, Hendre. Approved / Application number: 060019 – for proposed first floor extension above existing ground floor utility & WC to create master bedroom suite, at Quarry Farm, Northop. Approved / Application number: 05992 – for change of use of agricultural land to commercial use (B8) storage, at Pistyll Farm, The Nant. Refused / Application number: 060112 – for a non-material amendment following grant of planning permission 059741, at Hollie Bach, Rhes y Cae. Approved / Application number: 059997 – for retention of 2 x 2000 litre LPG containers, on access road, Little Chef, Halkyn. Approved / Application number: 057435 – for a listed building application for internal structural alterations, replacement of existing bar to new location and installation of parasol to external terrace, at Britannia Inn, Halkyn / Application number: Application number: 060068 – for construction of an all-weather horse-riding arena (20m x 4m) and widening of access from lane, to enable construction of above, at The Beeches, Rhosesmor. Approved.

#### **Donations and Financial Support:**

The Community Council have granted the following donations: £100 – Whitford Young Farmers Club, £100.00 Marie Curie (Rhyl Branch).

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

## ***Santa Stops Around the Mountain***

On **Tuesday 10th December** come out and meet Santa on his Christmas float, organised by the Flint and Holywell Rotary Club. There will be street collections in the vicinity of the float.

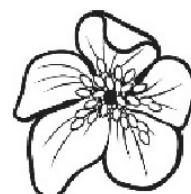
6.00pm - Pentre Halkyn Shop  
6.20pm - Halkyn Village Hall  
6.35pm - Rhosesmor Church  
6.55pm - Rhes y Cae, Miners' Arms  
7.15pm - Lixwm, Crown Inn  
7.40pm - Brynford School



For the latest information see:  
Facebook - Rotary Club of Flint and Holywell  
or [www.flintandholywellrotary.co.uk](http://www.flintandholywellrotary.co.uk)

## ***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, members free.  
Membership is available.

Information on 01352 375385  
or [clwydgroup@hardy-plant.org.uk](mailto:clwydgroup@hardy-plant.org.uk)  
or [www.hardy-plant.org.uk/clwyd](http://www.hardy-plant.org.uk/clwyd)

#### **The Winter Programme is:**

##### **Tuesday 21 January**

Planning for Colour and Drama in your Borders,  
Jenny Hendy

##### **Tuesday 18 February**

Cholmondeley Castle – A Garden of Distinction,  
Barry Grain, Head Gardener

##### **Tuesday 17 March**

Tulips in Holland, Mary Jones

Programme can be subject to change.



# **Brynford Community Council**

## **Christmas Tree and Illuminations**

The Council has agreed to provide a Christmas Tree, located on Brynford Village Green. Grosvenor Estates Department have very kindly donated a tree which will be erected and illuminated with festoon lighting over the Christmas holiday period.

On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 4.30pm residents are invited to attend an event for the switching on of the festoon lighting by the Chairman of the Council Councillor Jean Davies. Pupils from Brynford C.P. School will be leading the event with a community carol singing followed by festive refreshments at St. Michael's Church, Brynford.

Please come along and support the event.

## **Best Kept Community Competition 2019**

Following the completion of the judging of this year's event in July the Council is very pleased to report that the Community of Brynford has been awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> place within its category.

Brynford C.P. School was awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place within the school's category.

Hafod-Y-Bryn, Sheltered Accommodation entered into the competition for the first time and was also awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place within its category.

The Council wishes to express its gratitude to all those residents who participated and hope that further improvement will be undertaken in the year ahead.

## **Note for your 2020 diary**

A meeting of the project group for the 2020 competition will be held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 6.00pm at Brynford Pet Cemetery. All residents are invited to attend, refreshments being kindly provided by Mr. John Ward in support of the project.

## **Upgrading of Facilities at Brynford Recreation Ground**

Following a condition survey of the football ground and changing rooms a number of issues had been identified. As the Council has the responsibility for maintaining the recreation ground the Council had agreed to invest in improving the existing facilities.

The changing rooms have had a replacement roof, improving the insulation and weather resistance. The crowd rail around the football field, which was found to be badly corroded, has been replaced. The football ground is used during the winter season by a youth football team The Brynford Rams. The manager of the football team had kindly offered to undertake the painting of external walls of the changing room.

On Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October Gareth, along with team members and Councillor Pat Wahl, completed the task of painting the building.

The Council have expressed their gratitude to Gareth and the team for the excellent work and improvement to the appearance of the building.

## **Highway Amenity Lighting**

The Council has approved further investment into the existing street lighting maintained by the council. In future as lamps become obsolete or uneconomical to repair, they will be fitted with L.E.D. lighting units. This type of lighting units is currently located outside Brynford C.P. School.

The benefits of these lighting units include a better light quality, low maintenance and reduced energy running costs.

Should you be aware of any lighting defects please report them to any of your local Members or to myself.

## **Children's Play Area, Brynford Recreation Ground**

Flintshire County Council has invited the Council to participate in a match funding for improving children's equipped play areas. Following a condition survey undertaken by Flintshire County Council a number of defects have been identified requiring action. The Council has agreed to make provision of £5,000 making a total investment of £10,000 for improvements. The investment will provide for new items of play equipment and replacement of bark safer-surfacing with rubber matting surfacing.

It is hoped that the work will be completed by spring 2020.

## **Council Website Development**

(brynfordcommunitycouncil.gov.uk)

The Council is in the process of developing the Council's Website. Minutes of meeting agendas are posted on the site on a regular basis.

Further development will include a Calendar of Events. This will enable local individuals and groups to promote or advertise upcoming events or activities on the site. Please visit the site and advise of any observations you may have on its contents or further improvements.

## **Brynford Village Green Bus Shelter Improvements**

As part of the Best Kept Village Improvement Project members identified the very poor condition of the access pathway to the bus shelter. Approaches were made to Mr. Jamie Roberts, Slurry Seal Company to undertake the work on behalf of the Council. Mr. Jamie Roberts has very kindly agreed to undertake the work without charge to the Council. This will provide for the removal of the uneven pathway and replacement with new paving, which the Project Group and Council is very grateful for.

Work is currently ongoing and it is hoped to be completed in the very near future.

*Mr. A. Roberts, Clerk to the Council,  
Crecas Cottage, Carmel Hill,  
Carmel, CH8 8NZ*

01352 349849

clerk@brynfordcommunitycouncil.gov.uk

## **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**  
**www.flintshire.gov.uk**





## A Little Slice of Hawaii

At the beginning of 2019 I took it upon myself, after several requests, to set up a ukulele tuition group on the Mountain and bring a little slice of Hawaii to Halkyn. I am terribly pleased to report that the sessions have been very well attended and I now have a group of competent strummers who have not only mastered all the basic patterns and chords, but have progressed to playing a classical piece no less! Furthermore, members of Uke Planet Pack are even rehearsing their debut concert which they will have performed on a leafy autumn evening in Halkyn Parish Hall by the time you read this. A bottle of celebratory fizz or two may be involved!



As a performer and teacher I am immensely proud of the group, not only in their drive to learn the instrument, but in the way everyone gets along putting fun and friendship at the forefront of what we do no matter what skill level each person achieves. The general level of the class has now moved beyond beginner and so I have taken the decision to morph the group lessons into a more traditional and relaxed evening ukulele club. This will resume in January (after a break) when members old and new can turn up, bring some tunes they want to share, chat, relax, strum, sing and generally have a good old time. There may well be tea. I will be on hand to offer advice and encouragement of course, but it will very much be a more informal strum-a-long. There will be a small joining fee to cover costs that will see you through the year.

If you missed the Honolulu boat last January and are a beginner interested in learning the ukulele, then good news! From January 2020 I will be running a new 6 week course that will teach you the basics of how to hold and strum a ukulele and allow you to get to grips with all the basics you'll need to know. Once you've got a few simple chords under your belt, you'll be ready to join the club and strum along with the rest of us.

So if you're interested in learning, ask Santa to bring you a ukulele, keep an eye on the website [www.ukeplanet.co.uk/pack](http://www.ukeplanet.co.uk/pack) and we'll see you on January 15th, 6pm. Likewise, if you're already an accomplished strummer, you'll find a warm welcome at the new monthly club evening which will also start on January 15th, 7-9pm. Mele kalikimaka!

Mike Flaherty aka The Boy with the Greyhound Tattoo

For further information about Uke Planet Pack visit [www.ukeplanet.co.uk/pack](http://www.ukeplanet.co.uk/pack) & if you'd like to find out more about Mike and his music visit [www.mikeflaherty.co.uk](http://www.mikeflaherty.co.uk)

## Halkyn Mountain Community Cinema

Happy 5th Birthday to your Community Cinema! Well can you believe it ladies and gentlemen, we have been running the community cinema now for 5 years! From the beginnings of an idea floating around a campfire, the journey our hard working volunteers have taken has gone from strength to strength. We are all immensely proud of everything we have achieved and it goes without saying, of course, we couldn't have done it without you. No matter how hard we try, the community cinema would be nothing without those that come support it!

If you've never been before do come and check it out in 2020. What a perfect year to give your eyes a treat. With a huge screen and great surround sound we genuinely offer a true cinematic experience with the added bonus of tea and the ever popular prize raffle! What's more, in a joint effort with the Halkyn Parish Hall Committee, we have added some new padded seats to our screenings. A big thank you to Clare (our chair) and local charity Citizens Advice Flintshire for making this possible.

In film news and indeed coming up in January, we are proud to present the highly acclaimed "Rocketman", the story of the explosive career and transformation of Reginald Dwight into the world conquering Elton John.

- Saturday January 11th at Halkyn Parish Hall
- Tickets are £4 and are



available from our website (see below) or from the Blue Bell Inn from late December. Our following cinema evening will be on March 14th, so pencil that date in your diary too, and 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)

See you on January 11<sup>th</sup> ... Saturday night's alright!

Mike Flaherty  
Treasurer - Halkyn Mountain Community Cinema



## Rhosesmor Village Community Group

In August 2015, an open meeting was called in the Village Hall asking residents what activities, facilities and events they would like to see, and asking for volunteers to help organise community groups. The meeting was a great success, with a good turnout and many suggestions and offers of volunteers. From this meeting a number of groups became established:

- Keep fit (Mary Blackwell)
- Rhosesmor Tots (Alison Leonard/Sharon Broughton)
- Pond regeneration and picnic area project and maintenance (Brian Fearnhead)
- Village upkeep (John Thomas)
- Memorial garden (Viv Barlow)
- Art Club (Brian Fearnhead)
- Litter picking (Liz and John Tooke)
- Cooks and bottle washers, catering for events (Jackie Blain)

At this first meeting it was also suggested that we hold a Christmas Fair, both as a community event and a fundraiser for village projects, and this has now become an Annual event, with our 5th fair on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm in the village hall. A great opportunity to come along and catch up with new and old friends, support a village activity, enjoy refreshments in the W.I. café or win the grand hamper raffle and maybe have a quiet word with Sion Corn about any gift requests.

Further events followed, with Quiz nights, treasure hunts, cabaret evening, psychic evenings, neighbourhood watch launch, memories afternoon teas with transport for the elderly, and a hugely successful Lottery Funded Heritage Week, with summer fair, in association with Ysgol Rhos Helyg and St.Paul's Church. From the heritage weeks and memories group, a book is available to purchase, with profits going to the school.

Money raised from these events over the last 5 years, along with grants and individual and commercial donations have also enabled us to purchase and install two themed benches in Rhosesmor for the benefit of the whole community.

For next year, we have a quiz night pencilled in for Saturday evening 22<sup>nd</sup> February- BYOB, further details to follow.

We have a community Facebook page (Rhosesmor Village) which has details of events.

We also have an informal committee, comprising Chairperson Brian Fearnhead, Treasurer Mick Manning and Secretary Nicola Fowler who manage the funds and meet, together with interested residents, to plan events, fund raising (and projects to spend the funds on). The meetings are announced on the Facebook page, and we would really like to have more people to come along with new ideas and suggestions on how we can make our great village an even better community.

*Nicola Fowler*

*Email [nicchapel@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nicchapel@yahoo.co.uk)*

*Tel. 01352 781992( answerphone)*



## Grosvenor Estate Update

As you may recall, we launched a programme back in 2017 to repair and secure Clwyd Caps on Halkyn Common. Some of these were in a state of disrepair and needed work – not only to protect what has been a prominent historic feature on the Common for a very long time, but also to safeguard people who use the land from potential mineshaft hazards.

Following an extensive survey of all Caps and subsequent restoration works, we have now completed all required repairs. We will continue to monitor the Caps and other features as part of the ongoing Halkyn Management Programme and associated health and safety procedures.

We take our responsibility to look after Halkyn Common very seriously, and as is regularly reported in Halkyn Mountain News, we undertake various works to improve and look after the area. The co-operation and support of the local community is very much valued, and we fully recognise that the vast majority of Common users show respect and proper regard for the land and local environment.

It is disappointing, therefore, to see instances of anti-social and illegal behaviour by a very small few. Flytipping is one such problem which prevails on parts of the Common, ruining the environment and harming the health, safety and wellbeing of local people and

visitors. Flytipping is strictly not permitted, and appropriate legal action will be taken. If you notice any flytipping activity on Halkyn Common, please report it to the North Wales Police or Natural Resources Wales at [www.flytippingactionwales.org](http://www.flytippingactionwales.org)

On a far more positive note, we were delighted to see that themed benches (see page 10) have been installed in Rhosesmor to celebrate the history and heritage of the village and surrounding area. These beautifully designed seating areas will no doubt be enjoyed by local residents and visitors to Halkyn Common for many years to come. We congratulate everyone in the community who made this project happen – especially all the local volunteers who continue to raise funds and work tirelessly to enhance and improve the village – as well as Halkyn Community Council and Flintshire County Council who have supported the work.

The Grosvenor Estate recently made a donation towards repair works at Rhes y Cae Village Hall. The Hall is an important community hub, and we were very happy to support the restoration programme so that the facilities remain suitable for all the fantastic activities that are held there.

Last but not least, given that this is the last edition of Halkyn Mountain News in 2019, we would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year.



## *Rhosesmor Village Christmas Fair*

*The annual Christmas Fair will be held on Saturday 14th December at the village hall from 2-5pm.*

*There will be local crafts and gifts, games including the ever popular Shove Ha'penny, Play your Cards Right, Tombola, Raffle and our fabulous Grotto with Father Christmas/Sion Corn in attendance. Refreshments will also be available.*

*All profits support local groups and activities.*

*Come along and join the festive celebrations and catch up with friends and neighbours.*

*(Contact Tel. 01352 781 992)*





## Rhes y Cae News

### Rhes y Cae Church Harvest Thanksgiving Service

The service took place on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October at 3pm, and was followed by afternoon tea in the Village Hall. Rhes y Cae Church was beautifully decorated – many thanks to the ladies who helped with the decorations. The service was very well attended. Thanks to Rev Hugh Burgess, and to Colin Legg our organist, and to Sarah Westerman who read from the bible. After the service we all enjoyed afternoon tea at the Village Hall. Many thanks to everyone who helped with the food – very enjoyable indeed.

### Cheese & Wine and Memories Evening

Rhes y Cae Village hall, Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm.

Huge thanks to all who turned out on a wet and windy evening to support this event! The village hall committee were delighted to see the hall full to capacity.

Everyone seemed to have a good time and the DVDs of times past in Rhes y Cae, and the old photos sparked lots of nostalgic conversations! Many thanks to Graham Wright for allowing us to show his wonderful films, and to all who donated raffle prizes.



## National Iyengar Yoga Day

On Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2020 in Halkyn Village Hall there will be a morning of yoga for locals to come to. This will be a chance to have a go at yoga in a **free taster** session. If you have never done yoga before and were wondering what it is about, please come along and be guided in basic yoga in a friendly atmosphere. You will be taught by Jenny, a local Iyengar Yoga teacher of over 30 years. Jenny has been teaching in Halkyn Village Hall for over 20 years. She runs a regular class on Monday 6.30-8pm every week! This is attended by local people who will also be at the yoga day. We also do a monthly meditation after the class once a month.

On the National Iyengar Yoga Day on the 18<sup>th</sup> January there will also be a demonstration by local students, information about yoga and its benefits as well as lots of delicious homemade cakes, tea and coffee.

The event is free and it is the **only Iyengar Yoga day in Wales!** Please support this and come along and say hello.

The morning starts at 10.30am and finishes at 12.30.

[jenny@orsedd.f9.co.uk](mailto:jenny@orsedd.f9.co.uk)

### Rhes y Cae Village Hall Improvements

As part of the on-going renovations to the hall, the committee applied for funding to purchase new fire-retardant curtains. The hall committee are very grateful to both Grosvenor Estate and the Westminster Foundation for fully funding this project. Fabric for the curtains has just been chosen, and we look forward to seeing the new curtains in place soon. The hall committee is also grateful to Halkyn Community Council for their grant towards purchasing and installing a new central heating boiler.

### Future Dates

#### Over 60's Christmas Lunch

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December 12.00 Rhes y Cae Village Hall. A two-course Christmas meal with wine, followed by mince pies will be served, and the afternoon will include a raffle and musical entertainment.

If you are eligible to attend, and have not received an invitation, please contact Jill Thomas on 780061 by 7<sup>th</sup> December at the latest.

#### Ebenezer Chapel Carol concert

will be on Monday 16th December.

#### Church Services

Dates and times to be confirmed. Please see Church newsletters for details nearer to December.

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.

Many thanks

Gwyneth Hughes 01352 780371

Wendy Hughes [wendy.hughes@mytegfam.com](mailto:wendy.hughes@mytegfam.com)

Take part in

# NATIONAL IYENGAR YOGA DAY

## ALL WELCOME

Would you like to try  
some IYENGAR Yoga?

A free taster session for all

A chance to ask  
about Yoga, Retreats,  
Local Classes

A Yoga Demonstration by  
Local Yoga Students

Or just come for  
some delicious,  
home made cakes,  
tea and coffee

Contact Jenny on  
07940 494 516

**Halkyn Parish Hall**  
**18<sup>th</sup> January**  
**10.30 - 12.00**



# BOWLS CLUB CHRISTMAS QUIZ

*Halkyn Parish Hall*

*Saturday 14th December*

*Doors Open 7:30pm / Quiz Starts 8pm*



**Halkyn & District Bowls Club last fund raising event 2019.**

***Cost £4 each - pay on the door***

**Max 4 per team, if you are not part of a team don't worry, just come along and teams can be formed on the night.**

**There will also be a raffle on the night.**

**EVERYONE WELCOME -**

**ENJOY A CLASS OF MULLED WINE AND A MINCE PIE**

**Test your knowledge, have a fun night and help support the mountain's bowls club.**



**Tea, coffee and nibbles will be available.**

**You're welcome to bring your own alcoholic drinks.**



**Why not make a resolution to come and have a bowl in 2020**

## **Heartfelt Art & Craft Fairs**

Heartfelt Art & Craft fairs enjoyed continued success in their 5th year, supporting fundraising for another 4 charities. Held at Halkyn Parish Hall & Library, the events have enjoyed wonderful footfall, and remains a well attended community event. It is such a pleasure working alongside fundraising volunteers who attend the fairs in order to raise vital, much needed funds for the charity they support, and in doing so, they also raise awareness of the work the charity does and how they can help develop projects and support families.

By way of a short update, to-date we have raised and donated funds to RNLI Flint, Ty-Croeso - Dawn Elizabeth House at Glan Clwyd hospital, and Cancer Research UK, raising a total of £1,938.

Our Christmas fair was held on 30th November, when we supported the wonderful charity Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation - Wales.

As this article goes to print, we do not have a total of the amount raised. Without inclusion of the total raised at our fair in November, over the last 5 years, we have raised and donated over £24,000 to local and national charities, supported by the amazing volunteer fundraisers.

The standard of the bespoke, unique arts and crafts exhibited at the craft fairs is superb! Without the amazingly talented artisan stallholders, the fairs simply wouldn't be possible or as successful as they have been. We have a wealth of talented people living in and around Flintshire. It gives us such pleasure to offer

opportunity for the artisans to attend and exhibit their handmade, handcrafted original work. I am sure many of us have either purchased a 'Heartfelt' craft gift, or treated another to such. So a big thank you to all the artists, crafters and makers who attend our fairs throughout the year.

I would like to end our craft year by offering a huge thank you to everyone who makes time to attend our fairs, and to those who help us to raise awareness of the events by sharing the news in more ways than one. Local support is vital, and we are very grateful for the continued support. Local businesses, radio and press help enormously, as does the use of social media, but you can't underestimate the value of 'word of mouth' and the strength of community spirit when assessing success.

We look forward to continuing our Heartfelt Art & Craft fairs at Halkyn Parish Hall & Library next year, when once again, we will support fundraising for 4 more charities. The 2020 dates are as follows: **Saturday 7th March, Saturday 2nd May, Saturday 26th September and Saturday 28th November. Each fair will be held between 10am and 3pm, with FREE admission.** As always, a warm welcome awaits.

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

## 1<sup>st</sup> Halkyn Brownies



Brownies is a fun activity for girls aged from 7 to 10 ½.

We meet on Friday evenings from 6 until 7:15 at Halkyn Parish Hall. The girls have the chance to try new hobbies, cook, craft activities, play games, explore other cultures and get adventurous outdoors.

Girls can also extend their knowledge and abilities by working towards Brownie interest badges covering many different hobbies and activities from Science investigator to Circus skills. And they also have the opportunity to take part in special events, day trips, and sleepovers.

The girls have had a busy time this autumn including cooking, teddy Winter Olympics, attending the remembrance service, model making, den building and bringing a friend to Brownies.

If your daughter is 7 or over and would like to see what Brownies is all about we'd love to see you. If you would if you'd like to have any more information please contact me on  
01352 716207 or  
Karen.morganread@btinternet.com

## Blue Bell Walks

The walks from the Blue Bell enable you to ramble – a pursuit which allows you to enjoy some of the most beautiful landscape Flintshire has to offer. Walking is an easy way to get active and an ideal way to get to know the area. Halkyn Common and its surrounding areas offer many points of geological and historic interest.

At the Blue Bell we are fortunate that our landlord, Gary, opens up for us before the walks and after for refreshments and socialising in front of warm welcoming fires.

We call the first walks in January our **New Year's Resolution Walks**. They cater for all abilities. It is good to see parents bringing their children along and enjoying this happy time of the year out in the fresh air. Dogs on leads are welcome too.

We would like to see our regular walkers and newcomers starting the year off on the right foot by joining us on **Thursday January 2nd at 2.00pm** and/or **Saturday January 4<sup>th</sup> for a 10.30am** start.

May we take this opportunity to thank all the Walk Leaders for their time and effort over the last twelve months and wish them and all walkers a joyful festive season and a happy and active 2020.

John and Vicky Thomas

## near-ta theatre Panto

Fun for all the family  
Near-ta's yuletide comedy puts the "cell" in "celebration!"

Charlie and Toby are feeling low, it's Christmas Day in prison.

But why shouldn't they have a merry Christmas? A festive cabaret

ensues, setting off on a festival of carols, Claus, Christ and custody!

*"Better than many big pantomimes."* – West Briton

This award winning show will be at  
Halkyn Parish Hall

**Sunday 15 December**

7.00pm (doors open at 6:30pm)

Tickets are priced £5.00 and available from  
Hâf Morgan-Read (Haf.Read@live.co.uk)  
or Halkyn Library



## 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**



**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



## 1125 C.I.C

1125 C.I.C is a local organisation that helps young people from Flintshire and Wrexham aged 11 – 25 that may have experienced disadvantage through poverty, homelessness, low self-esteem, rejection and life challenges. The projects we run aim to get young people motivated and to feel part of a community, whilst learning valuable skills.

Our 'Risky Business Peer Mentoring' project funded by the National Lottery Community Fund provides a weekly programme of activities that aims to raise self-confidence, improve aspirations, increase social skills and offer the young people an opportunity to use their life experiences to help others via mentoring. We are currently about to start a peer education substance misuse workshop and a video project called 'park bench' to promote positive mental health.

We run accredited courses for young people that have disengaged from schools on issue based topics, which restarted in October, and social enterprise projects in local homeless hostels to help engage with groups and provide business skills. Our recent 'Re-new' social enterprise project funded by Postcode Lottery brought us to the HeartFelt Craft Fair at Halkyn Mountain where everyone was really welcoming. We were selling our jewellery, made from recycled objects, and showcasing the Flintshire bot (robot) made with lots of concentration by local young people resourced from aluminium cans.



Our missions is to:

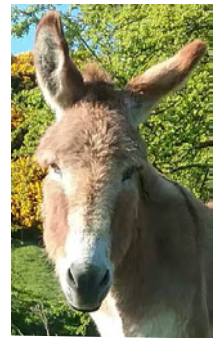
- PROVIDE a safe space free of judgement
- EDUCATE to promote knowledge of risk-taking behaviour
- EMPOWER individuals to take responsibility and make positive life choices and ...
- REACH aspirations through new opportunities.

The projects and courses delivered by 1125 C.I.C are asked for by the young people and are tailored for their needs.

We update our website regularly with project information and events that we attend, so please feel free to go on [www.1125cic.co.uk](http://www.1125cic.co.uk)

## A few words from Danny

In the last edition I shared with you the news I had heard from one of the sheep that a strange shiny contraption has appeared in the road, preventing them following their usual route. I have since learned that these are called "cattle grids". I have never seen one so I can only imagine what they look like from what I have been told.



I had been given such varying descriptions from different sheep that I decided to ask the owl who regularly perches in a tree near my stable. She told me that cattle grids are intended to keep sheep where they don't want to be and to stop them going where they want to go. Knowing sheep like I do, it is very difficult to prevent a determined sheep from doing anything. Once a sheep has decided they want something, they can rarely be prevented. When I was younger, I stood my ground to a ewe that had poked its head through the fence into my field and was eating a lovely patch of the greenest grass that I had been saving. Within seconds, reinforcements had arrived and I was facing a whole flock bleating at the tops of their voices. It was too much for me to take and I dislike confrontation (my big word for this edition!), so I turned and fled to the security of my stable.

I don't know who wants to stop the sheep choosing where they go, but they clearly haven't enjoyed the company of a stubborn and determined sheep. If one sheep gets annoyed you can almost guarantee that they will soon get all their pals annoyed too. I sometimes wonder whether they do this to generate body heat to dry their woolly coats on wet days – just a thought. Anyhow, the sheep have spent the last three months talking about little else. Although the owl tells me that there is still a way to pass to the side of one of the grids, this may be changing soon. The sheep have therefore been practising ways of crossing the grids. They apparently asked an elderly ewe to lie on her side while the others walked over her. This was fine for the first lamb to cross, but the second to cross was a plump sheep who wasn't very careful about where she put her feet and she trampled the old ewe and received a sharp bite in return. The old ewe walked off in a huff and the attempt to cross ended there.

The second attempt was intended to be a long run followed by a jump. Several sheep started at the top of the road, ran downhill faster and faster and as they reached the grid were supposed to leap over it. Sheep are prone to panic and as the first sheep reached the jumping point, she applied her brakes and stopped suddenly, only for five other sheep to crash into her knocking her over onto the grid. She had striped imprints on her face for three days afterwards! Needless to say, that method was also abandoned.

The owl who told me about these attempts said that the sheep have been careful only to practise at night when it has gone dark. I guess this is why the owl knew so much.

The owl tells me the sheep have another plan which involves "sostlecrated acrobapicks". I have no idea what this means and didn't like to ask in case it was something every donkey should already know. It hasn't yet happened so I guess I just need to be patient and I am sure to hear more very soon.

If you are wandering the mountain at night and happen to see a group of sheep acting strangely, remember you read about it here first. Life is never dull on the mountain.

Bye for now, **Danny**

## Hannah Blythyn AM

I know that our public transport system is something that is important to many of us locally and I recently had the opportunity to raise constituent queries and talk to Transport for Wales and Network Rail at an event in the National Assembly for Wales. First up, I was clear to Transport for Wales that I expect the only station in Delyn – Flint – to get its fair share of improved facilities and services following the change in franchise. I was also keen to bring home to Transport for Wales the need for equitable investment in all corners of the country. We've already seen improvements on the Wrexham to Bidston line and the opening of the Halton Curve but this needs to be built on and residents need to be kept up to date with progress, in particularly when it comes to replacing rolling stock.

In respect of Network Rail, I continued to press the case for a new station at Greenfield/Holywell, something I believe would open up both access to work for people in the western part of the county but also bring in more tourism to the Greenfield Valley and surrounding area. This is something I have been supportive of from the outset, having previously brought the Minister for Economy and Transport, Ken Skates along for a site visit and I met lately with the Holywell Transport Group for an update on progress in a variety of areas, including Welsh Government investment in local cycle routes.



### ***With representative of network rail***

But it's not just train services that are important to our area, improved and sustainable bus services are central to creating a modern, connected service in our corner to the country. Cuts to commercial bus services have impacted on communities across the constituency and on the back of this, I called a meeting with Arriva Bus representatives to drive home how hard the cuts hit people and to press for improvements. However, the root cause of this is the de-regulation of bus services back in the 1980s which has led, over time, for bus services largely to work to serve the more profitable routes rather than where people most need them. That's why, since becoming an AM I've been campaigning for change and I'm pleased that the Welsh Government has outlined plans to take action to allow the implementation of public bus services in the future in Wales.

As part of the recent Remembrance period, I was proud to once again host the annual Royal British Legion Poppy Ride in the National Assembly for Wales. I joined fellow Assembly Members, staff and Royal British

Legion volunteers to get on my bike and cycle our support for all those who have served our country in the armed forces. It was a privilege to once again host and take part in this event in support a worthy cause as part of the Royal British Legion's activity to mark the annual remembrance period. In addition, it was an honour to attend the annual Wales Festival of Remembrance at St David's Hall in Cardiff on behalf of the First Minister and Welsh Government. The event, in aid of the Royal British Legion poppy appeal is now in its 39<sup>th</sup> year and this year saw a moving reflection on D-Day 75, the liberation of s-Hertogenbosch and the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Rorke's Drift with massed choirs, readings and the Regimental Band of the Royal Welsh.



### ***At the Poppy Ride***

In my last contribution, I talked about the work being done by communities and organisations to take action on single use plastic. Since then, I'm pleased to have been able to announce in a debate aimed at reducing plastic pollution and cutting down on single use plastic, that we're taking steps in Wales to ban or restrict the most commonly littered single use plastic products, including, straws, stirrers, cotton buds, cutlery and expanded polystyrene food packaging. This builds on the consultation I launched – due to close on 13<sup>th</sup> December – to increase business recycling in Wales, which essentially means businesses and other organisations separating waste for collection just as households have been doing for years.



### ***Speaking at the Senedd Debate***

And finally, as we approach festive period, I paid a visit to the Flintshire Foodbank warehouse and distribution centre in Mold. It's a sad sign of our times and the impact of nearly a decade of austerity that we have foodbanks, but whilst the need for them remains, it's welcome news that the Welsh Government announced a £2m fund for tackling food poverty and addressing food insecurity. I'd also like to take this chance to thank all those volunteers who help out at foodbanks across the area and, of course, everybody that donates so generously, particularly at this time of year.



## From Tree to Treen

I said, "Do me a favour and try to look like you've enjoyed yourselves" as I took the picture. I needn't have bothered as the grinning faces peering back at me from the picture I took that day speak volumes about the way a few hours spent in the woods can change your outlook on life. The few hours in question were spent in a woodland sitting around a camp fire, carving wood. Working with nothing more than hand tools to produce small wooden domestic objects or "treen" such as butter knives, spatulas and spoons is very rewarding.

Modern life places ever more demands on our time and the pace of life seems to be constantly accelerating to frenetic levels. Woodcraft offers a fantastic antidote to this as it demands your full attention. Concentrating on one task – to the exclusion of all others helps to calm the mind. Working with a natural material such as wood demands a certain level of understanding of the properties of the material. Knowledge of how the grain flows through a piece of wood, the direction in which you need to make the cuts and how you hold the piece safely all come with experience. As does the pursuit of the perfect aesthetic, if indeed there is such a thing. Things need to be done in a certain order and when using hand tools there's no "quick fix". For me it is akin to meditation and is a very relaxing pastime.

I am lucky enough to be in the position where I can have a positive impact on peoples' lives. By teaching such skills I can change the way people interact with the natural environment around them. Once this connection is made, it cannot be undone.

One chap came along to one of my Woodcraft days a couple of years ago. He told me he came along as his dad never took him outside to do the outdoor stuff he wanted to do as a kid. This unfulfilled desire stayed with him into adulthood. He now had two young sons of his own and he wanted to gain these skills so he could do with his kids the stuff he had always wanted to do with his own father. That really stuck with me, as the impact that my teaching would have on not just his life, but those of his boys could be great and far reaching.

Another client had yearned to carve wood for many years, but lacked the confidence to really give it a go. One aspect that was holding him back was his lack of knowledge in sharpening his tools. This is really important as the difference between using blunt tools and sharp ones can mean the difference between taking up carving, or jacking it in altogether! Anyway, he took to it like a duck to water and now there is no stopping him. Instead of progressing slowly he dived headlong into carving a Love Spoon for his partner. These ornate designs are not straightforward things to do and he obviously has a natural aptitude for it. Building this connection with the natural environment and gaining hands-on skills harks back to a bygone age when self-reliance was the key. However, don't take my word for it. Have a go yourself and make the journey from tree to treen.

*Saul Burton*  
*Halkyn Mountain Living Landscape Officer*

## A box of Treen



## Rhosesmor W.I.

The dates of our next meetings are:  
November 11th (which is our AGM), and  
December 9<sup>th</sup>, a Christmas get together party.

Anyone interested in joining please contact  
Pauline Broughton on 01352 780883

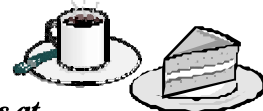
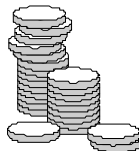
### HALKYN PARISH HALL BINGO

*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*

*December 4th and 11th and so on with me.*  
*So come along. Eyes down. A fun night you'll see.*

## HALKYN MOUNTAIN DVD

The updated Halkyn Mountain DVD is available. 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.*



## Glucosamine and its Benefits

Glucosamine is made from glucose and an amino acid called glutamine. It is naturally found in our body and is used to form and repair the cartilage and other tissues. However, the body's natural ability to produce glucosamine slows down with age. Glucosamine is usually combined with a molecule called chondroitin sulphate, which is naturally present in the cartilage. The function of chondroitin is to give elasticity to the cartilage and enhance its shock-absorbing properties. It is known to prevent the destruction of cartilage by enzymes. In nutritional supplements, glucosamine is also sometimes combined with MSM (methylsulfonylmethane).

### Glucosamine and Osteoarthritis

Osteoarthritis causes the cartilage to become stiff and less elastic, which makes the joints prone to injury. If not treated, this can worsen and may lead to pain, swelling and further deterioration.

The body can produce glucosamine naturally; it makes the cartilage stronger and gives it elasticity. Taking glucosamine supplements is believed to help treat osteoarthritis, knee osteoarthritis, as it can help repair the broken cartilage by enhancing the body's natural glucosamine supply.

The jury is out on glucosamine and some large studies have suggested that it is not more effective than placebo, but in my practice, I have found a proportion of patients do improve their symptoms by taking it.

There are studies that suggest that glucosamine can ameliorate the symptoms of knee osteoarthritis and slow its progression. As published in the journal "Archives of Internal Medicine", researchers examined people suffering from osteoarthritis for three years. It was found that glucosamine was able to slow the progression of symptoms compared to the placebo. Those who took glucosamine experienced significant reduction of stiffness and pain and there were no signs of deterioration found on x-ray. Those who took the placebo on the other hand had shown narrowing of joint spaces in three years' time, which is a sign of deterioration.

One of the most elaborate studies done on glucosamine was a six-month study called GAIT (Glucosamine/Chondroitin Arthritis Intervention Trial) sponsored by the National Institutes of Health. The participants were divided and assigned to one of the following treatment groups: Glucosamine hydrochlorothiazide, chondroitin sulphate, glucosamine/chondroitin sulphate combination, celecoxib, and placebo. This is to compare the effectiveness of each medication.

It was found that glucosamine and chondroitin, whether in combination or alone, were not able to provide significant pain relief to participants with mild pain but were able to provide relief to participants with moderate to severe pain. The study, however,

was considered preliminary as glucosamine hydrochlorothiazide was used instead of glucosamine sulphate.

A three-month trial of glucosamine is often suggested by chiropractors and other health care providers. If no improvement is seen in three months, they recommend discontinuation of the medication. The recommended dose of glucosamine sulphate for osteoarthritis is 1500 mg once per day.

### Side Effects of Glucosamine



Like any other supplements and medications, glucosamine has side effects. These include headaches, drowsiness, and insomnia. It may also cause mild and short-term digestive problems such as abdominal pain, decreased appetite, nausea and vomiting, heartburn, diarrhoea, and constipation. Glucosamine supplements may be made from shellfish; people who are allergic to shellfish should avoid taking these supplements.

Some studies suggest that when glucosamine is used in the doses to treat osteoarthritis, it could put diabetic people at risk as it could worsen insulin, blood sugar and/or haemoglobin levels.

People with bleeding disorders are also advised not to take glucosamine unless it is recommended by a chiropractor or a healthcare provider. It is believed that glucosamine may increase the risk of bleeding. Patients who take anti-clotting, blood-thinning, or antiplatelet medications (e.g. warfarin and aspirin) should be careful when taking glucosamine. Close supervision by a healthcare professional is recommended.

There are glucosamine supplement manufacturers who include harmful metals such as cadmium, lead, and mercury to their products. To make sure that the glucosamine supplements you buy are free of heavy metals that are harmful to your health, it is best that you buy it from an established company.

Steve Massey,  
St Asaph Chiropractic Clinic, 01745 535854



## 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. We have had a busy start for the school year. We have had a few visitors to Rhos Helyg ...

### Don't Touch Tell



John Piper visited the school once again, with his hand puppets, as part of a national programme about drugs and alcohol. He came to re-enforce the important message of not touching discarded syringes and the older pupils were warned about the dangers of underage drinking.

The children were entertained by the puppets, but important messages were passed on.

### PC Marc Jones

Our Police Liaison Officer visited the school to discuss issues relating to friendships and bullying. These interactive workshops are enjoyed by the pupils.

Once again important messages are conveyed to the children.



### Shenkin the Goat



We were visited by a very special goat ... Shenkin. He is the mascot of the Welsh Fusilliers and is often seen

on TV, especially when the Welsh rugby team is playing at home in Cardiff. Shenkin was well behaved and liked being around the children.

### PTA

Once again we are indebted to our hard working PTA for donating the funds to purchase lots of Science equipment.



### Eco Club

Eco Club pupils have had a tidy up around the school.



The children say that they want to make a better future for our planet, its people and its animals.

### Rock Study

Pupils in Year 4/5 have been studying Rocks as part of their topic work.

Firstly they researched rocks on their ipads.

Then they went on Halkyn Mountain to study them.

The final part of the study work was to try and discover which rock was the strongest.





## Ysgol Rhos Helyg continued

### Pumpkin Investigation



Pupils in Early Years have had a great time investigating the characteristics of a pumpkin.



### Forest School

Pupils in Early Years have enjoyed their toast and hot chocolate. They have also enjoyed doing their tasks in the woods.

Pupils in Year 3/4 have been using the forest to create pictures of the red panda for their endangered animals Zoo.



Whilst pupils in Year 5/6 have been preparing and then eating vegetable soup. It was extremely nice.

Forest School gives the children a whole range of skills. It is a great, fun way to learn.



### Defibrillator



Thanks to SADS charity we now have a defibrillator at the school. It is for use by everyone in the community.

the necessary work is carried out.

### Macmillans Coffee Afternoon

A big thank you to Mrs Wendy Griffiths for organising this fabulous event once again.

Thank you to everyone in the local community that came to support this event. A fantastic £800 was raised.





## PTA Halloween Disco



scary costumes for the Halloween disco. The children love this event and enjoy the hot dogs and other refreshments provided by the PTA.

Traditionally the pupils come dressed to impress in their



## Healthy Eating

As a school we actively promote eating and here is a fabulous example of a healthy lunchbox.



## Harvest

Thanks to everyone for their food donations, we have distributed the



donations amongst the local community.

## 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 780 297

## Tinytots Playgroup

Wales Preschool Playgroup Association

### Tinytots Playgroup Learning Through Play

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



## HALKYN MOUNTAIN KIDS CLUB & HOLIDAY CLUB

We are situated in Ysgol Rhos Helyg Primary School. The club is registered with CIW (Care Inspectorate Wales); all staff 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.

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.



### Holiday club

To book your child/ren in please see 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 parents/guardians)

Prices for Holiday Club only £25 per child for a full day; £16 per child for half a day (till 1pm)

### After school club

Opening times for After School Club only 3.10pm – 5.20pm Mon – Fri Term times only.

Prices for After School Club only

1 child for half a session (3.10pm till 4.20pm) fees are £5.50

1 child for full session (3.10pm till 5.20pm) fees are £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 780 265 or 07591 239 511 or Email us on [Halkynmountainkidsclub@gmail.com](mailto:Halkynmountainkidsclub@gmail.com) or even visit our website at: [www.ysgolrhoshelyg.com/holkyn-mountain-afterschool-club/](http://www.ysgolrhoshelyg.com/holkyn-mountain-afterschool-club/)



## Brynford Rams

The Brynford Rams looking very smart at the beginning of the new season in their new kit, which has been sponsored by Leighton Roberts the owner of Safety First Electrical based in Carmel.



Brynford Rams Football Team volunteered to undertake the redecoration of the external walls of the football changing rooms.

Councillor Pat Wahl, who helped supervise the work, said the team had worked very hard and had improved the appearance of the building.

### Be careful what you say!

Brynford Rams offered to help paint the Brynford football changing rooms. When I asked the lads for volunteers they said "Who's going to paint it?". I said, "You'll paint yourselves."

And as you can see, that is exactly what they did!



Some paint did go on the building and it looks much improved. As for our new kit, it is no longer green and white hoops but mainly white stripes! Anyway, we have somewhere bright to change!

*Gareth Roberts (team manager)*

## Halkyn & District Bowls Club

### David Jones Trophy

On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Aug, still the height of British summer so no surprise that it was on a cloudy, rainy day, the stalwarts of our bowling club gathered to play for the David Jones Trophy. Despite the wet conditions there was some very good bowling and close games that culminated in a closely fought final between Julie Lewis and Mick Carpenter with Mick taking the honours.



### John Ledger Shield

Halkyn was pleased to host the final of the Division 2 John Ledger Shield on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> August between Aston 'A' and Oakenholt 'B'. The competitors were watched by many spectators who enjoyed some very good bowling and closely fought games. Aston A eventually took the trophy. Picture shows Midweek League President presenting the shield to Aston 'A' Captain.



### Final Club Competitions

Our final singles competitions of the year were played on Sat 24<sup>th</sup> Aug and were the Consolation Cup, for anyone who has not won a club competition during the season, and the Hubert Blackshaw Cup, for those who have.

### The Consolation Trophy

This was played in the morning in bright sunshine and it was great to see two of our new members, Sue and John, playing. They were drawn against each other in the first round and after a very close game Sue went through to the quarter final. The competition continued with most games closely fought with Granville Gittins triumphing over Les Latham to take the trophy.



### The Hubert Blackshaw Cup

After a break for drinks and refreshments the Hubert Blackshaw Cup got underway. The competitions were won by fewer members this season so there were only seven winners to contest the cup this year. Nevertheless, it was still a very close contest with Pat McDermott eventually losing to a worthy winner, Mick Carpenter. Well done Mick, this year's champion of champions.





## Ladies v Gents Trophy

The very last club competition of each season is the Ladies v Gents Trophy. As usual the first part of this event is to see, who or what turns up to play. As you can see from the photo 2019 provided the usual weird variety of what was thought to be the best thing to wear to beat the opposition. After some closely contested bowling and a lot of good humour the Gents seemed to have the most intimidating outfits as they just managed to outperform the Ladies by 5 games to 3. Pic shows Champion of Champions "Michaela" receiving the trophy for the winning Gents Team from our Chairman.



## 100 Club Winners

August - B Evans - £15, September - H Lewis - £15, October - J Roberts - £15, November - W Lewis - £15 and December - D Mazurek - £30 (Christmas came early).

Now the season is over, the clubhouse is closed, and the bowls are put away. The bowling green is asleep waiting for the winter work to begin to get ready for next year. For many of us that's the end of our exercise and that's sad for some but not for all.

Some of us are bowling at Flintshire's indoor bowling facility at the Jade Jones Pavilion (Flint Leisure Centre). Maybe you didn't know about that. It's good fun, it's exercise, it's social, it's competitive. Last year Halkyn had two teams but now we only have one because of members other commitments so we could do with some more players. It's easy to join. One player says it's like rolling bowls on ice but it's not that bad why not join and find out for yourself.

To anyone interested please come along to see what goes on. For more information see our website [www.halkynbowls.wales](http://www.halkynbowls.wales) or contact Patrick McDermott 781057, Julie Lewis 781212 or Jo Woodruff 781276.



## Holywell Rambling Club Winter Programme 2019-20 – Summary

Day/Date	Walk Title	Grade & Distance	Leader & Tel. no	Meet location and time
<b>December</b>				
Thurs 5th **	Moor & Marsh	Easy/Mod 5.5 miles	Ron 01352 715 723 07967 513 268	Abakhan, Mostyn 9.50
Sun 8th	Whitegate Way	Easy 6 miles	Maureen 01352 761 018	N'thop/H'well/J29 8.30/8.45/9.00
Thurs 26th	Boxing Day walk	Easy 4-5 miles	Elfed 01352 780 435	Ysceifiog village 10.50
Sun 29th	Moel Arthur & Penycloddiau	Mod/Mountain 7 miles	Ron 01352 715 723 07967 513 268	Holywell. 9.30
<b>January</b>				
Sat 18th	Walk from Willaston - Wirral	Moderate 9 miles		Holywell./Northop 9.15/9.30
Sun 26th	Circular around Gop hill	Easy/Mod 8.5 miles		Trelawnyd High St. car park 9.45
<b>February</b>				
Sun 2nd	Foothills of the Clwydians	Easy 6.5 miles		Ruthin Craft Centre car park 9.50
Sun 9th	Nant y Plwm Falls & Caves	Mod./Mount. 6.5 miles		N'thop/H'well. 9.00/9.15
Sat 15th	Offa's Dyke & Nth.Wales Paths	Moderate 11 miles		N'thop/H'well. 9.00/9.15
Sat 22nd	Over the Clwydians	Mod./Mount. 11 miles		Clwyd Gate Hotel car park

Further information on the club and our walks programme, including a description of each of the above walks plus others which will be added, can be obtained from our website [www.holywellramblers.org.uk](http://www.holywellramblers.org.uk)

\*\* Dogs are welcome on these walks.

Meeting Points for car share are:

(1) Car park adjacent to Holywell Community Hospital (2) Northop Village car park (3) Junction 29 on the A55.

# Holywell Golf Club



## Annual Cancer Charity Day

Holywell Golf Club hosted its annual Cancer Charity Day in aid of the North West Cancer Research. Eighty players took part and over £1000 was raised.

The 4BBB competition was keenly contested and there were lots of good scores recorded but it was the pair from the last group that took first prize: 1<sup>st</sup> Geraint Jones and Jack Pilkington-Jones, 2<sup>nd</sup> Neil McDowell and Phil Parsons and 3<sup>rd</sup> Lady Captain (Nerys Jones) and Jan Cain. The Ladies prize went to Veronica Wrench and Joanne Jones. Nearest the pin on the 12<sup>th</sup> John Griffiths, nearest the pin on the 15<sup>th</sup> Terry Rowley, nearest the pin in two on the 8<sup>th</sup> Nerys Jones and the longest drive went to Steve Castaldo. Thank you to everyone for supporting this worthwhile charity once again.

## Autumn 4BBB Open

When the Club hosted its autumn open there was a great turn out. In total 146 players took part but it was Holywell players who took the spoils: 1<sup>st</sup> Keiron Roberts and Sion McHugh, 2<sup>nd</sup> Brian Tierney and David Williams, 3<sup>rd</sup> Brian Law and Richie Salisbury, 4<sup>th</sup> Colin Barker and Terry Chaloner, 5<sup>th</sup> Doug Peters and Martin Jones and 6<sup>th</sup> Peter Bolwell and Rob Jones. Nearest the pin on the 12<sup>th</sup> Kevin Inskip and nearest the pin on the 15<sup>th</sup> John Roberts.

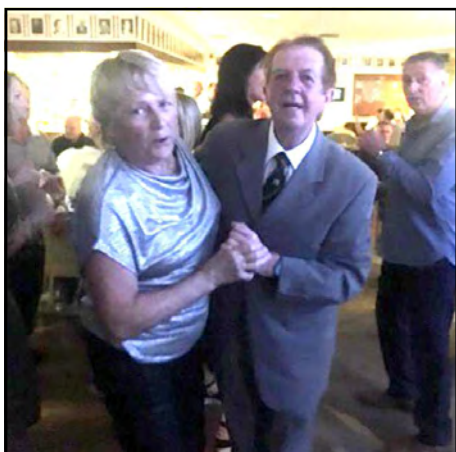
## More Great Scoring At Holywell

Whilst playing in the Life Boat Medal competition Pete Jones scored a wonderful 59. It was not an error with score input like his son Luke believed it might have been. Pete did shoot a gross of 70 for a net 59 and reduced his handicap from 11 to 8.

## Vice Captain's Day 21st September

Members and guests joined our Vice Captain, Terry Petrie, to celebrate his day. The weather stayed fine and there was a great turn out. The winners were: Overall winner Rae Carroll, Division 1 first Cliff Edwards on a countback from Chris Cummins, Division 2 first Ray Lewis, second Tom Collins and Division 3 first Keiron Roberts and second Richard Sim. Nearest the pin on the 12<sup>th</sup> was Luke Carding and nearest the pin on the 15<sup>th</sup> Keith Ireland.

Members and friends later joined Terry for a buffet and some fantastic entertainment. Members and guests raised £458.20. This will be added to Terry's Captains charity next year and the total proceeds will go to the Good Companions Holywell Community Hospital. Our picture shows Vice Captain Terry Petrie and Lady Vice Captain Sue Collingwood.



## Holywell Pro-Am Competition

The weather stayed fine for the pro-am competition and the course was looking and playing fantastically. The team event was won by the Mid-Week Comp team consisting of Sam Scott, Ben Thomas, Merfyn Brockley and their professional was Matt Tottey. They scored 16 under par, beating second place team by five shots. Well done to everyone who competed. The individual Professional competition was tightly contested but the winner, who clearly enjoys playing at Holywell was Graham Cox who also won last year. Thank you to all the teams that competed and supported the event, without you it wouldn't be possible to host such a great day.

## Welsh PGA Championships Pro-Am

Our Pro, Josh Charnock with Geraint Jones, Pete Jones and Luke Pilkington Jones went to Conwy Golf Club to play in the pro-am. On a brutally tough day they battled the weather, eventually ending up with a score of 78 points. In what the players thought was the hardest conditions they have played in off the back tees they felt like 78 was a decent score and they were proved right as they finished in 4<sup>th</sup> place. Paul Newton played in Matt Parsley's team and they came 2<sup>nd</sup> on countback. Congratulations Paul.

## Professional Day 12th October

Our professional Josh hosted his second Professionals Day at Holywell and as is tradition he stood on the 15<sup>th</sup> tee all day taking on members in a Beat the Pro competition to raise money for the Captains Charity. Thank you to everyone that played on the day and well done to the 15 people who beat him throughout the day. It was a pretty good day weather wise and the scores reflected that. Three players scored 40+ points but Neil Lloyd was the clear winner with a brilliant score of 44. Congratulations Neil and all the other prize winners: overall Winner Neil Lloyd. Nearest the pin on the 12<sup>th</sup> Steve Booth, nearest the pin on the 15<sup>th</sup> Colin Roscoe.

## Mid Week Comp Finale-13th October

Nine teams took part in the Midweek Comp Am-Am finale. All the teams enjoyed 18 holes with the best two scores to count and all to count on par 3s. This was followed by some good food making it a perfect end to a brilliant day. Congratulations to the following prize winners: 1<sup>st</sup> Jonathan Griffiths, Sam Scott, Sion Johnson and Dan Sim, 2<sup>nd</sup> Danny Williams, Ben Thomas, Howard Holland and Colin Crabtree. Nearest the Pin on the 15<sup>th</sup> Malcolm Payne and nearest the Pin in 2 on the 17<sup>th</sup> Jon Kendrick.

## MacMillan Coffee Morning

Once again Holywell Golf Club hosted a coffee morning in aid of the McMillan cancer support. In all £400 was raised for this worthwhile charity. Many people spent a lot of time organising and baking for this event and the cakes that were on offer were magnificent. Pictured here are the main organisers Tom Carroll, June Carroll, Jane Smales, June Willcock and Bill Bradshaw. Thanks to the organisers and everyone who supported the event.





### **Lady Vice Captains Day**

The ladies enjoyed a great day when they celebrated lady Vice Captains Day. It started off with the ladies and guest playing eighteen holes of golf. They then joined our Lady Vice Captain, Sue Collingwood, for a meal followed by the presentation. Lady Vice Captain thanked all the members and guest for attending her day and also thanked them for all their kind wishes and gifts. The winner was Joyce Eakins, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ailsa Hughes and 3<sup>rd</sup> Lorraine Redman. Nearest the pin on the 4<sup>th</sup> was Lynne Teeson and on the 12<sup>th</sup> Lady Captain Nerys Jones. The Lady Vice Captains chosen charity was Clare house and £102.50 was raised. The picture shows all the winners and our Lady Vice Captain proudly displaying the Lairds runner up Shield which the Ladies Laird team won in August. Lady Vice Captain thanked all the Ladies who took part in the Lairds Competition.



### **Holywell Juniors**

In August Holywell Juniors competed for the Kimberly Clark Trophy. The winner was Zac Elliot-Jones, 2<sup>nd</sup> Haydn Jones and 3<sup>rd</sup> Cian Hughes. The silver tee winner was Briony Elliot-Jones and 2<sup>nd</sup> Nyle Blythin. Well done to Nyle on his first comp and well done to all who braved the weather.

### **September Medal**

Red tees 1<sup>st</sup> Harrison Prior, 2<sup>nd</sup> Zac Elliot-Jones 3<sup>rd</sup> William Griffiths 4<sup>th</sup> Haydn Jones on a countback from Tom Comber. Red Tees (12 Holes) 1<sup>st</sup> Harry Parker, 2<sup>nd</sup> George Parker and 3<sup>rd</sup> Owen Elliot-Jones. Silver tees (9 holes) 1<sup>st</sup> Ashton Moore 2<sup>nd</sup> Rhys Jones on a countback from Joe Rees Jones.

### **North Wales Under 18 Girls**

Congratulations to Sian Jones who won the North Wales under 18's event at Padeswood and Buckley recently. Well done Sian and best wishes for the Welsh Championships.

### **Junior Captain's Day Sunday 6th October**

When Haydn Jones hosted his Junior Captains Day he was joined by 10 pairs who took part in a nine hole 4BBB; the scoring was fantastic. Congratulations to the following prize winners: 1<sup>st</sup> Harry Parker and Ashton Moore, 2<sup>nd</sup> Matthew Malone and Caiden Morris, 3<sup>rd</sup> Oliver Jones and Owen Elliot-Jones. Nearest the pin on the 6<sup>th</sup> George Parker and nearest the pin on the 7<sup>th</sup> Matthew Malone. Haydn has had a successful year as Junior Captain and we would like to thank him for all the time and effort he has put in this year.



### **Juniors and Parents/Grandparents**

Well done all the juniors, parents and grandparents who took part in our family golf. We had 10 teams and the winning team was Cian Hughes, Matthew Malone and their Dads, Runners-up Team Rhys Roberts, his Dad and Moi and in 3rd place William and Thomas Griffiths and Mum and Dad. Da iawn all.



## Halkyn Cricket Club

Halkyn CC 1st XI enjoyed a hugely successful 2019 campaign and finished the season as Division 2 Champions. They proved to be by far the most consistent side in the division, losing just one game; very much a team effort by all the players. Tim Davies had the best batting average, but there were also contributions from Ben Robert, Nathan Lavender and Alex North. Gareth Thomas was the leading bowler with 43 wickets, but the team succeeded as a bowling unit with Ben Roberts, Graeme Settle and Alex North also taking 20 plus wickets each.

Seventeen club members travelled to Kinmel Manor Hotel, Abergele where Gareth Thomas picked up the NWCL Bowling Award for Division 2 and Rana Dey picked up the League Cup. The cups were



presented by Jonathan Agnew - BBC Radio 5 Presenter.

Halkyn also won the Chester Midweek League Division 3 title, and 18 club members travelled to



Chester Boughton Hall CC for the presentation by former England player Ryn Sidebottom.

Halkyn 2nd XI enjoyed a more successful campaign, they won their final away game at Llandudno by an impressive 68 runs. Halkyn 2nd XI posted a healthy 199-3 with an impressive 142 opening wicket partnership between Keith Williams (51) and Simon Penney (69). Llandudno were stopped on 131, Mason Andrews taking 5 wickets.

Keith Williams and Shaun Gibson were the leading batsmen during the season and Mason Andrews and Daniel Williams led the way with the bowling.

### Club Ties:

Halkyn CC have purchased some Club ties in the traditional black and gold colours. So if any past, present players or supporters would like one these can be bought for £10 and are of excellent quality. Please contact Jane on 07732 325033



### Halkyn Junior Cricket:

This coming season we are looking to get our junior section back up and running and will be starting an under 11 junior team and this will be open to both boys and girls of all abilities. If your child would be interested then please contact Jane on 01352 781523 or 07732 325033 for further information.

### Halkyn CC Clubhouse:

A reminder, that the clubhouse is available for hire at a very reasonable cost. We have a fully licensed bar; ideal for parties, weddings, christenings and wakes. We also offer the use of the clubhouse free to any mountain community group or school and have a reduced rate for children's parties (under 13). For booking information please contact Jane on 01352 781523 or 07732 325033.



Before you move on to the adverts can I remind you that we now need more volunteers to join our team.

**Please don't dismiss our plea for new volunteers as, unless we can secure additional help, it is possible that Halkyn Mountain News could be published for the last time during 2020.**

**We are sure that most would agree that this is something to be avoided, as it would be a very sad event indeed.**

Our most urgent need is for volunteers who:  
have bookkeeping skills,  
are happy to liaise with advertisers,  
have an amateur interest in desk top publishing.

We would also welcome anyone who would just like to help where needed and to join in the collating of the copies for our delivery team.

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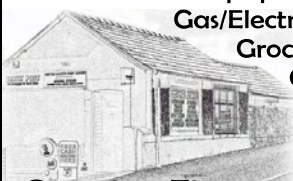
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