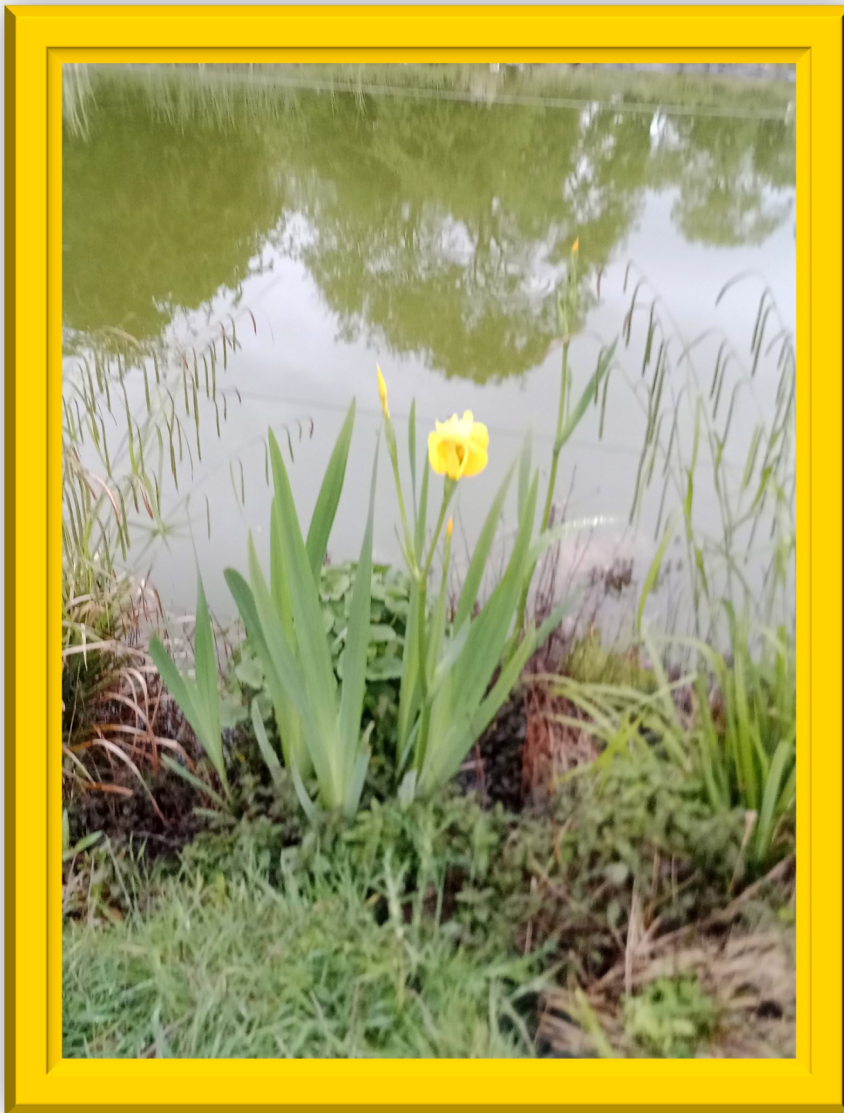


Halkyn Mountain *News* *Newyddion Mynydd* *Helygain*

Issue/Rhifyn 191 – Summer/Haf 2024

Bright skies, longer hours of day light, temperatures beginning to soar all lift our mood and make us happier. Nights are warm & balmy. Summer time is the season to feel free & joyful. The hedgerows are turned out in their fullest green uniforms and the flowers continue in gay array. The birds are busy feeding their young and the insects are working hard to pollinate our fruit trees & bushes. The harvest will soon need gathering.



Map
showing the Five Villages of Halkyn Mountain: Halkyn, Brynford, Pentre Halkyn, Rhes y Cae, Rhosesmor

Map yn dangos y Pump Pentref ar Fynydd Helygain: Helygain, Brynffordd, Pentre Helygain, Rhes y Cae, Rhosesmor

Map/text: Halkyn Mountain Nature Conservation Group & FCC

Picture:
Iris Pseudacorus / Yellow Iris Flag
Summer flowering on a pond bank close to the boundary of Brynford, Halkyn & Lixwm
Supplied by DRW
If you have a picture to share - let us know

The Autumn Edition - Issue 192 - will be distributed in September 2024

Please submit News and Advertising items by 1st August

We look forward to receiving your calendar of events going into the Autumn & Winter months

Please send articles and advertising to the email addresses listed on page 2

Dear Readers

Welcome to the Summer 2024 issue of Halkyn Mountain News. There has been such a lot going on at HMN headquarters that there is almost too much to report on.

Apparently the predecessor of Halkyn Mountain News - Countryside News - would now have reached a commemorative 50 years of age. Unfortunately we have little in the way of documentation or back copies giving information about actual dates. If there are any readers with documentation we would love to hear from you.

On a sad note most readers will be aware that we lost nearly £1100 to the printer who took our money and abandoned his company. However, by the effort of the HMN team and readers/supporters, we found that a liquidator will be appointed and, if we ever get the name, we may join the long list of creditors.

On a very happy and positive note we have the launch of our new and very colourful looking newsletter. The addition of colour in all of our pages especially our advertising pages is proving to be popular with many readers and several of our loyal advertisers who have converted their adverts to colour. We hope all our advertisers gain from being with us. Please be sure to support all the companies who advertise here.

Our new printer GwasgPrint continue with their tremendous support by paying for a colour advert in the newsletter they are printing.

We continue to need income and can with great satisfaction report that we have obtained a grant of £2000 from Cemex. This amount is unfortunately far short of the 3 year grant we requested but will cover the cost of printing nearly 2 issues of our newsletter. We continue to need assistance, no matter how small, from readers & advertisers - you are our lifeline. We will always need more volunteers to help with distribution and group organisers/leaders to supply facts, dates, reports and articles about activities and events around Halkyn Mountain, Brynford and surrounding areas. We need to hear about what has happened and what is to happen in the future - please contact us.

Best wishes

The Halkyn Mountain News Team

Please note new email address for contributed material:

hmarticles@gmail.com

*** The Editorial Team reserves the right to edit submitted material.**

*** Fees advertised within articles unless for a registered charity will not be published.**

*** 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 placed in this production.**

*** All advertisements created for publication in Halkyn Mountain News are protected by copyright and may only be reproduced by express permission.**

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Wendy.whitmore5@yahoo.co.uk

Payments and Financial Matters:

HalkynMountainNewsFinance@gmail.com

General Enquiries and Comment:

HalkynMountainNews@gmail.com

A copy of this issue will be available at the Halkyn Community Council website: www.halkyn.org.uk

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Secretary: Sylvia Mitchell-Wright

Advertising: Gayle Hughes

Contributions: Jenny Butters Lorna Doyle

Anita Mawson Wendy Sigsworth

Wendy Whitmore

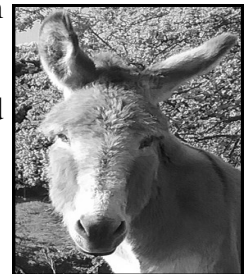
Treasurer: Samantha Martin

Distribution: Wendy Whitmore

A few words from Danny the Donkey

Sub-editor and carrot quality assurance executive:

I have lost count of the days when it has been raining. There have been some days when it has rained the entire day. I don't mind a little rain but I have had enough of it recently.



There is nothing nicer than starting the morning with a token gallop. It sounds impressive but it is more like a speedy walk with a hop, skip, jump and a stretch thrown in for good measure. However, I have had to limit my morning excitement as the ground has been so muddy I feared I might slide with my front end going in one direction while my back end went in the other. Co-ordination has never been my strong point so I don't intend taking any risks. So while I still had my morning gallop in my mind, my body controlled the pace. Despite the weather, life continues as usual. There are many ewes on the mountain proudly showing off their lambs. Some of the lambs must wonder what a strange wet and damp world they have been born into. Dogs continue to take their humans for walks and some humans even venture out alone, in pairs or in groups. I learn a lot from human conversations. I have noted that these often include the weather and, no matter whether the rain is pouring or the sun is shining, they often want something different. A passing couple of humans were discussing how the weather was having an effect on growing vegetables. My ears sprang vertical upon hearing this as I knew this may be important news. Apparently, due to the ground being so wet, those humans who grow vegetables had not been able to plant either potatoes

or carrots! Interesting, I thought, but I was not prepared for what they said next - there might be a **SHORTAGE OF CARROTS!**

I have no idea whether it was seconds, minutes or hours before I recovered from the shock as my world had stood still for those moments. As I came to my senses, I realised that it had never crossed my mind where my carrots came from. My human friends keep me supplied and visitors regularly bring them for me. I have never had to worry about there being a shortage. I must admit I spent a stressful day wondering how I would cope if my supplies dwindled. I pondered if I could save a couple of carrots a day but I know from experience that they lose their freshness and their delightful crunching sound when bitten. One of the humans who had brought this devastating news commented that "we might have to buy them in tins". I wasn't quite sure what this meant but from her tone of voice it didn't sound like a favourable option.

That night I returned to my stable and, needless to say, carrots were very much on my mind. I remembered when I was a young foal, I had thought that carrots grew on trees. I seem to recall that I was told this by an elderly ewe who was probably having some fun at my expense. I kept waiting for the carrots to appear on the nearby trees but they never did. I was quite relieved when my mother explained they grew in the ground because I have never enjoyed heights and the thought of scaling a tree terrifies me to this day.

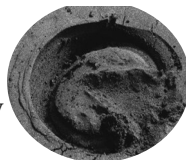
As I rested in my stable, I realised I have been lucky to have had such a good supply of carrots. There are probably many donkeys who don't see them from one season to another. I suddenly realised that I had become a pampered donkey and, if carrots were all I had to worry about, then life is good.

I vowed to relish every carrot in future as it may be my last for a while. I am very lucky to have a warm and comfortable stable and to live in such a pleasant place. I also have a copious supply of fresh grass and many tasty thistles. My human friends bring me very tasty food twice a day which is worth doing a mini gallop for. I must remember to count my blessings and not to worry about silly things. I have much to be thankful for and that includes sharing my thoughts with my friends at Halkyn Mountain News. If you do happen to be passing by my stable or if you see me in my field, please remember that I often overhear your conversations. But my hearing is not quite as good as it used to be so please raise your voices a little and, if you can, please explain what is meant by "carrots in tins". It would solve a mystery for me!

Goodbye for now and may you always have a warm coat and plenty of carrots.

Bye for now, *Danny*

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



CASTING CALL

Looking for people aged 30+ from Flintshire and the surrounding areas.

Should be confident Welsh-speakers but do not need to be fluent. No acting experience required but should feel comfortable singing within a group.

Must be able to commit 8-10 hours per week and be available for performances at the end of July and in early September.

To apply, please email sophie@haywiretheatre.co.uk with your name, where you are based and a recent photo.

Theatr Clwyd



HAYWIRE



Rhosesmor Village Hall Diary

Weekly

- Monday 14:00 Art Group (WI)
- Tuesday 10:30 Yoga 1400 Art Group 1830 Pilates
- Wednesday 11:00 Tai Chi 19:00 Dungeons & Dragons
- Thursday 09:00 Mums and Tots (Term time)
- Friday 15:15 Mobile Post office 18:30 Cubs and Scouts (Term time)

Fortnightly

- Monday 10:30 Coffee Morning

Monthly

- 2nd Sunday 11:00 Bead and Jewellery making
- 2nd Monday 14:00 WI meeting
- 2nd Tuesday 14:30 Material Girls - Sewing group
- 3rd Saturday 10:00 Jewellery making/Crafting workshops
- Six Weekly**
- Saturday 12:00 Board Gaming group
- We have availability for regular bookings Tuesday afternoons, Wednesday afternoons/evenings, Thursday afternoons, Friday mornings/afternoons
- Some Saturdays/Sundays are available for Parties/Workshops/Group Meetings

To enquire/book - contact Jon Tarry 01352 780842

Pentre Halkyn Community Centre

To book the community centre please contact Megan Davies 01352 780026

Monday

- Over 50s Club and Bingo 1.00pm

Tuesday

- Tuesday Night Painters 7.00 - 9.00 pm

Wednesday

- Holywell Art club 10.30 am - 1.30 pm

- Art group information supplied by Lynda Wilson



Halkyn Cricket Club

Due to the exceptionally wet Spring, the **Senior Men's** season has been delayed and will now start on Saturday 4th May. This means that the season has been extended by one week finishing

on 22nd September. The ladies and junior fixtures remain unchanged.

New players are always welcome to join us as we look to strengthen the teams.

For further information please contact:

1st XI captain Alex North on 07795 833393.

What a winter we've had here at Halkyn CC!

The **Women's Team** trained hard at Holywell High School. Thank you for letting us use your super facilities. We have welcomed lots of new ladies into the team who have progressed so much in their cricket skills and have had lots of fun while doing so.

Looking forward to some drier weather now and to get out onto the field for outdoor training which starts from the 7th of May every Tuesday evening 6.30-7.30 weather permitting. Ladies are welcome to come down and have a go.

The cricket season starts soon and we are all ready

to enjoy some good play in the sun. Good luck to all teams this season and we all look forward to seeing you all down at Halkyn CC supporting your local team. Go well!

The **Junior Section** enjoyed a 12 week indoor winter nets programme at Holywell Leisure Centre. This coming season we are running an U9s and U11s teams and will once again be running the ECB Allstars and Dynamos Programme. Please contact Jane for the booking link and code if your child would like to take part. The junior season will start around mid May and the Allstars and Dynamos will start on 17th May. If your child might be interested, please contact Jane on the numbers below. No experience necessary. We have both male and female ECB qualified coaches at each session.

Reminder that the clubhouse is available at a competitive rate and we offer the clubhouse free of charge to any local schools or non profit groups. We also offer a reduced hire charge for children's parties.

For further information on any of the above please contact: Keith or Jane 01352781523 or 07732325033

Pentre Halkyn 'Teaching Legends' Recall Teaching in Uganda in The 60s

Members and guests of the Rotary Club of Flint & Holywell were treated to a fascinating lecture delivered to them at one of their regular Monday Evening meetings at The Springfield Hotel by local 'Pentre Halkyn Legends' Kevin and Delyth McIntyre.

They both recounted their times in Africa where Rotarian Kevin described how, as newly qualified teachers, they had both responded to calls for UK teachers to help set up a new school in Uganda.

Since those early days in their careers, Kevin and Delyth have maintained special links with Uganda and they have revisited the country and its schools on many occasions, helping not only with the building projects but also with the provision of books and associated educational equipment.

Indeed, the two have organised a number of appeals at regular intervals for books, desks and even refurbished bicycles, all supported by the Rotary Club.

The talk also covered their joint love of walking and mountaineering and photographs of the two of them taking part in an expedition to climb one of Africa's highest mountains, Mount Kenya, were shown to their audience.

Despite being close to the Equator, the upper slopes of Mount Kenya are permanently clad in snow and many comments came from the audience about the lack of suitable clothing and proper equipment which would now be considered essential before even considering such a potentially hazardous ascent.

Delyth agreed that, in those days, health and safety was not a priority and that the enthusiasm of youth in the 1960s would most certainly be frowned upon in today's risk averse society!

Although both are now well past their three score years and ten, their enthusiasm for education and especially the schools of Uganda remains undimmed and they concluded by expressing the hope that the Rotary Club of Flint and Holywell will continue supporting the children of Uganda.

Further Info: davidpearse@icloud.com



THOMAS CORAM AND THE FOUNDLING HOSPITAL



This seldom heard of man, who changed the lives of so many children, was born in 1668. His mother died when he was three and his father sent him off to sea when he was only eleven years old. He later settled in America and worked in shipbuilding before returning to England with his wife Eunice. He was appalled by the number of destitute and dying children on London's streets and had the idea of building a foundling hospital to take them in and give them protection. However, it was difficult to gain any support. At that time illegitimacy was very much frowned upon and it was widely thought that to provide for these children would further encourage immorality.

Undaunted and much encouraged by the French women caring for foundlings in Paris, he approached English noblewomen for support and to sign a petition asking for a Royal Charter. Thomas's project was slow to gather momentum and it took another ten years before King George II signed the Foundling Hospital Charter. With the Duke of Bedford as its president, the first meeting was held at Somerset House and the first Foundling Hospital opened its doors in 1741.



Remarkably, the Foundling Hospital charity, now a national organisation, still exists after all these years. Still in the same place, it now has the initials BAAF added to its title – British Association for Adoption and Fostering and is a mixture of old and modern buildings. Apart from its fostering and adoption work, it offers support and training to anyone, including professionals, who work with children in whatever field and does much to secure better policy and practice in all matters concerning young people. They run classes, courses, workshops and playgroups and there is a nursery school on site. It is also home to a 7 acre play park called Coram Fields and a fascinating museum with a big collection of artefacts from the old hospital.

The Legacy of Thomas Coram in Our Family

We have a little boy in our family who was adopted through Coram. He had a disrupted early life – in hospital from birth with medical problems and having to undergo surgery, then moving to a foster

family. He is such a success story and it's been a pleasure to watch him go from strength to strength and become a huge presence in our family. He is thriving at school and making good progress with reading, writing and number work. He makes friends easily, loves being outside whatever the weather, swimming, playing football, trampolining, singing, storytelling and going on bike rides but his very favourite place is the beach so he loves going on holiday! He has a huge appetite and eats most things, including the occasional treat from Old MacDonald's as he calls it! We're proud of all his achievements and forever grateful that he joined our family through the legacy

left by Thomas Coram whose organisation also offers lifelong support to adoptees and their families.



'The Foundling' by Stacey Halls

The heroine in this book is forced to give up her illegitimate daughter to the Foundling Hospital due to dire poverty. But a few years later, when her circumstances change, she goes to reclaim her, only to find she was claimed by someone else the day after she had been given up. The young Mum then sets out to uncover the truth of what happened. It is a fascinating book which I finished in two days. Although it is a novel, the writing is an excellent portrayal of the social conditions of the time and the shocking circumstances in which people lived. Article by Lorna Doyle

20th Anniversary Blue Bell Walks

In August 2024, we will celebrate twenty years of walking with Walkabout Flintshire / Walking for Health on Halkyn Mountain.

We would like to thank all our walk leaders whose commitment has meant we are able to provide a variety of walks to suit all abilities.

The regular Saturday morning (10.30am) and Thursday afternoon (2pm) walks continue throughout the year.

Summer Evening Walks – April to end September
Wednesday 7pm from the Blue Bell - 2 walks – 60 minutes and 90minutes

Friday 7pm from The Crown Lixwm – 1 walk - 90 minutes

John and Vicky Thomas





From Concept to Reality

It is 10 years since Heartfelt Art & Craft Fairs began at Halkyn Parish Hall & Library.

The first charity fundraising fair held in April 2014 was in aid of Claire House Children's Hospice and thereafter over 20 different charities have benefited from donations raised as a result of these craft fairs. The inspiration to commence the community, non-profit, events came just by chance when I attended a craft fair on the Wirral in 2013 soon after retiring. I started to think about organising craft fairs myself. At that time I was exploring ideas about what to do next. Now retired, I hoped to engage more in my local community and the Parish Hall was on our doorstep, a perfect venue to hold events. I came home excited about the prospect of organising something involving charity volunteers and raising money for charities through the sale of refreshments, home baked cakes, a raffle and a tombola - a public event with traditional values such as a craft fair like I'd been to many times in the past with my Mum and Nan.

I started to visit many art and craft fairs, art exhibitions and art galleries. Having managerial and organisation skills, I believed I could bring art and craft to the attention of our local community, fundraise for charities, support talented artisans and increase public awareness of what the charities could do to help others. I believed that offering an opportunity for extremely talented local artisan crafters and artists to exhibit and sell their work, whilst at the same time raise much needed funds for charities, the events would be heartfelt. So that was it! The events would be known as Heartfelt Art & Craft Fairs.

Where to start?

I had the concept, the ideas, a venue and bundles of enthusiasm and determination to make the events happen. I had researched event licensing, public liability and other areas of event management but what about stall holders? More than anything, I needed artists and crafters to attend and showcase and sell their work to the public. I needed to share my idea with others so I joined the Flintshire Art & Craft Network which gave me the opportunity to present the concept and meet many artisans. I also approached artisans at other craft fairs. I contacted Rosie Robertson, a charity fundraiser and a hugely talented artisan, asking her if she'd be interested in attending a local craft fair and she was supportive and provided me with details of

many other artisans I could contact.

So there it started.

Creating Facebook and Twitter pages, engaging with local press and radio and having the support of local businesses all helped to share the news and raise awareness of the fundraising events. Professionally created event banners, posters, flyers and direction signs helped and continue to help raise awareness of each event and direct people to the Parish Hall on Halkyn Mountain. Attendance and support has always been superb from local visitors and those travelling from afar.

My husband John and I, together with my son Jack and my wonderful parents, Maureen and my late dad Keith, working together with volunteers and many supporters were the team behind the scenes. We very much enjoyed organising the craft fairs for 8 years. Just ahead of our craft fair held in November 2021, due to competing demands and an impending house move, we made the difficult decision to cease organising the craft fairs. We were delighted when Rosie & Neil Robertson agreed to take over the management of Heartfelt Art & Craft Fairs in 2022. Over the last two years, together with their supportive family and friends, they successfully organised and managed the craft fairs adding their personal and creative stamp. They were committed and ensured continued community engagement maintaining close involvement with local charities raising over £5,700.

Now in 2024

After TEN years a total of £34,303 has been raised and donated to very worthy charitable causes. Each and every one of us involved in making the events happen - the supporters, the talented artisans, the charity volunteers and the wonderful general public - all should celebrate the continued success and longevity of the fairs.

2024 Dates of craft fairs will be:

Saturday 22nd June: Guide Dogs Cymru (UK)

Saturday 16th November: Charity to be confirmed
Halkyn Parish Hall between 10am and 3pm

I and my husband will be organising the fairs again. Thank you all for your continued support. Diolch i bawb am eich cefnogaeth parhaus. Sue & John

For more information contact:

heartfelt.mountainstudio@aol.co.uk



Farmer's Diary

John Sigsworth



Rain, rain, rain and more rain; it's been relentless. At least Wendy and I were able to have 12 days in Madeira at the end of January where the temperatures were between 20 and 25 degrees every day and we didn't have a drop of rain.

We arrived back on the farm and Hayden had sheep in the sheds ready for lambing starting on 3rd February. All started fairly normal but then as they say, "Don't count your chickens before they hatch". We started to see a few still born lambs and some with deformities. After some research, we concluded that some of the ewes had been bitten by a flea carrying Schmallenberg virus. We were not alone; many early lambing flocks were affected and many were hit far worse than us. The most annoying cases were where the ewes had a good first lamb and the second was so deformed a C section had to be performed to get the lamb out. On the plus side, on the 7th February, we had three consecutive lambings of triplets followed by a quad. All the families were put in special care and luckily all the ewes have reared all the lambs and are now out grazing. In fact we have kept most triplets as triplets this year. Politically, February brought a bit of a rebellion amongst farmers as demonstrations showed our strength of feelings about the Welsh Assembly Government's plans to require farmers to put 20% of their land into woodland and rough ground as well as their mis-management of Bovine TB in the principality. The rules and, for some unknown reason, the science is different across the border in England.

It is distressing to see so many reports of dogs attacking sheep both locally and nationally. There is very little a farmer can do after the event. A dead ewe won't come back to life. A mismothered lamb is a lot of work to rear by hand and the number of abortions and miscarriages can't be quantified. I know for certain we have lost one lamb to a fox and another had its tongue pecked out during birth. Nature is tough enough without having irresponsible dog owners.

The mountain has seen an influx of wax wings in March and we have regularly seen a red kite flying over the farm in March and early April. We witnessed a clutch of eleven ducklings around the 14th April and we also have snipe and geese on one of the farm ponds. I saw the first swallow on the 6th April with another on the 16th. I know the weather has picked up a bit at the end of April but as the saying goes "two swallows don't make a summer" so we've got to wait a bit yet.

It is now the end of April and thankfully dry enough to do some field work, rolling and harrowing. The cattle are also out grazing and content to lie on the drier ground.

Rhes-y-Cae Needlecraft and Social Group Update

Group members have been busy crafting during the Autumn and Spring months. They have also had two delicious meals at The Cherry Pie.



During the Autumn, we worked on a range of Christmas crafts including advent calendars and created beautiful light decorations.



In the Spring, we created soft toys and tried two new crafts - weaving and making animals out of old socks.

We welcomed Dr Teri Howson-Griffiths one Tuesday evening in April. Teri is the lead for Betsi Cadwaladr Health Art and Wellbeing Steering group. The benefits of art engagement for health and well-being for both the individual and communities are well known. Teri came to see this in action when



she visited us. The Steering group has developed a 3-year strategic approach to embed art and wellbeing across the region. Susan Nuttall sits on the

steering board representing the grassroots organisations.

Advanced Notice – Christmas Jumpers

Our Autumn craft project for 2024 is to knit a Christmas Jumper – why not come along and learn a new skill or if you are an experienced knitter come along too. All you will need is a pattern, needles and wool. The jumper can be any size – adult or child or even for your favourite pet. Our first class will be on Tuesday 10th September, 2024 at 7 pm at Rhes-y-Cae Village Hall.

For more information contact Susan Nuttall Tel: 07557 965441

Rhes y Cae Village Hall

The Hall is available to hire for events, children's parties etc. To enquire or book the hall, please contact Wendy Hughes phone 07922181313 or email rhesycaevillagehall@gmail.com

Recent Events

Coffee Morning Tuesday 13th February. This was a slightly different event from usual as there was musical entertainment from a local ukulele group 'Oopa Duk'. The group played a great selection of well-known songs. Audience participation was encouraged and the response was enthusiastic! Thanks to the group and to all who came and sang along! We raised £158 for the upkeep of the village hall.



Coffee Morning in aid of Christchurch, Rhes y Cae, Tuesday 19th March. A well-attended coffee morning and everyone enjoyed their hot cross buns and a catch up. Home made cakes and greetings cards were on sale. Thanks to everyone who came to support the event and to all who brought raffle prizes.

Village Hall Improvement Project
The Hall will be closed from 7th May 2024 while work is carried out to improve kitchen and storage facilities.
In September 2023, FLVC (Flintshire Local Voluntary Council) alerted us to the fact that a grant funding opportunity was available for improvements to community buildings via the Cadwyn Clwyd/ FLVC Prosperous Communities Flintshire Key Fund, with support from UK Government Levelling Up and Flintshire County Council.
With assistance from Shaun Darlington at FLVC, we submitted our application and, in November 2023, we were delighted to hear that our application had been successful.
The work will involve extending the kitchen by demolishing an internal wall and also renewing the worktops and kitchen units.
We thank all our regular hall users for their patience during closure and we are tremendously grateful to everyone who wrote letters in support of our application.
We look forward to welcoming everyone back once the renovations are complete.

Weekly Diary

Tuesday 7pm – 9pm Social Needlecraft Group.
Contact Susan Nuttall 07557965441
Wednesday, fortnightly (from 17th January) 7pm – 9pm Ewe Can Craft Social Crafting Group
Contact Rosie on 07563372440
Thursday 7pm – 9pm Yoga with Jane Lloyd 07977048469

Citizens Advice Flintshire Currently Looking for Volunteers

You will be part of a friendly, supportive team making a real difference to communities and people's lives and gaining new skills. You'll learn about a wide range of issues such as benefits, debt, housing, employment, discrimination and consumer rights.

To find out more about volunteering with us, take a look at the link below:

<https://mailchi.mp/7f5c441b996d/volunteering-with-caf>

If you'd like an informal chat about volunteering, please contact Learning Support & Admin Co-ordinator, Sophie, on 01352 706840 or via email: training@flintshirecab.org.uk

Fundraising Youth Concert

Four talented youngsters entertained approximately sixty people at a concert in the beautiful Church of St Paul, Rhosesmor and raised £100 for the St Kentigern Hospice.



After a good initial response from youngsters wanting to take part in the concert, it was a little disappointing when many withdrew. Although all were enthusiastic to take part some didn't have the confidence to follow through. With just two weeks to go and only three performers and no compere, cancelling the concert was considered. The dedication of the three performers remaining, their families and friends gave the organisers the confidence to carry on. With just a week to go a Master of Ceremonies was found and it was full steam ahead.

William Sigsworth had his first and only rehearsal on the afternoon of the concert. He introduced the performers with enthusiasm and kept the show moving smoothly. Mali Sigsworth delightfully sang six songs from a variety of musicals which got the audience tapping their feet and moving their bodies. The six songs Rhian Powell beautifully sang were a wonderful contrast to Mali's songs. Lastly Leo Frost chose five very entertaining pieces to play on the keyboard giving us a superb recital.

Mick Manning co-ordinated the show with his impressive skills as a sound engineer and musical producer. He encouraged and guided everyone calmly and with confidence. Light refreshments were served and the raffle was drawn during the break.

Some of the comments we received were: the talent of the three performers is amazing - it was a great evening - most talented youngsters - really enjoyed the concert - well worth going to...

Clearly we have talented youngsters in the area who are prepared to give their time to raise money for a local charity.

SPACES AVAILABLE NOW!

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

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

Opening times for holiday club only 8am - 5.30pm Mon - Fri

(Breakfast will be provided and a healthy snack in the afternoon, packed lunch to be provided by the parents/guardians)

Prices for Holiday Club only

£25 per child for a full day

£16 per child for half a day (until 1pm)

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

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

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



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

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

Prices for After School Club only. Open 3.10pm till 5.20pm Monday to Friday Term time only

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

1 child for full session (3.10pm till 5.20pm) costs £8.50

2 siblings for half a session (3.10pm-4.20pm) fees are an extra £4.95 making a total for 2 children £10.45

2 siblings for full session (3.10pm-5.20pm) fees are an extra £7.65 making a total for 2 children £16.15

A 5% discount will be given to any other siblings thereafter.

For more information contact **Sian Davies (Senior Playworker)** on 01352 780265 / 07591239511 or Email: Halkynmountainkidsclub@gmail.com or www.ysgolrhoshelyg.com/holkyn-mountain-afterschool-club/

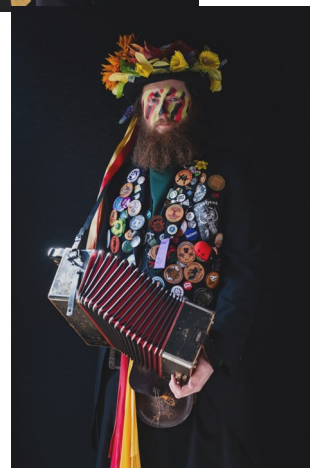


Make a Date with Clerical Error Morris Dancers

Greenfield Valley Sun 5th May
Moira Canal Festival Sat 18th and Sun. 19th May
Chester Folk Festival Sat 25th to Mon 27th May
Sandbach Day of Dance Sat 1st June
Bonsall Carnival Sat 27th July
Wickham Festival Fri 2nd August to Sun 4th August
Northgate Folk Festival Chester Sat 24th August

There are also some performances by Clerical Error planned for local pubs in our area. See Facebook Clerical Error Morris Dancers and Street Entertainers – Y Clerigwyr

Credit for pictures: Ryley Morton Photography



CYNGOR CYMUNED HELYGAIN - HALKYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Quarterly Report



Community Award 2024

The Halkyn Community Council has issued a Public Notice in relation to the 2024 Community Award. The Public Notice can be found in this issue of the Halkyn Mountain News, the various notices boards throughout the Halkyn Council area, including the

Council's web site. The Community Award policy can be perused on the web site whereby the application form can be downloaded:

www.halkyn.org.uk

(Public notices & Financial page).

The Community Council seeks nominations from residents who reside within the Halkyn Council area. The aim of presenting an award is to promote pride and give recognition to those who have made a significant contribution within the community as something to be valued. The presentation of the award will provide an opportunity to increase awareness of those people who voluntarily and selflessly work to improve and enhance the lives of people in the Halkyn Community Council area and to allow that work to be celebrated.

Council Annual Report 2024

Under the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 (Section 52) all Town & Community Councils in Wales are required to provide an end of year report. The Halkyn Community Council recently agreed their report which has been uploaded to the Community Council's web site.

The report covers the following headings:
Information about the Halkyn Community Council / Councillors / Complaints / Freedom of Information Act / Details of outside Committees & Organisations the Councillors attend / Council's objectives and achievements during the reporting year / Council's objectives for the new financial year of 2024 to 2025 / Financial sections relate to: Asset Register; Budget; Financial Assistance; Members Allowances; Publication Audited Accounts / Environmental (Wales Act) 2016 (S6) / Flintshire. County Council: Planning and Street Lighting / Council Training Plans.
The Council's full report can be perused on the Council's web site: www.halkyn.org.uk
(Public notices & Financial page).

Flintshire County Council (Street Scene)

The following concerns have been reported to Street Scene: Pot hole: B5123 – Northbound and approximately 150m north of Rhos Helyg School / Trees overhanging adjacent to a property in Rhes Y Cae. Whilst residents in the area are complaining,

the bin wagon staff have also complained. An ambulance also received difficulty in the area / Pant Corner: The safety barrier near the entrance to Tarmac Quarry is now rotten; needed to be replaced / Pot Holes. There are a number travelling on the B5123 – from Rhosesmor down the hill towards the A541 Mold to Denbigh Road / Pot holes: Church Lane, Rhosesmor / Berth Ddu Rubbish bin. The bin had been damaged and removed by the County. Could this be replaced and perhaps a red dog bin could be provided also in this location, rather than the previous bin requested in Shone's Lane / Water flowing down road: Pen Y Parc area / Road collapsed: Below the bends in Pant Y Gof / Overhanging dead trees: Between St Mary's church and cattle grid / Dead branch: Approx 250m further south on B5123, the branch is suspended in a tree overhanging the road near 30 mph repeater sign / Pot Hole: Near to Cemex Quarry, Pant-y-Pwll Dwr, Pentre Halkyn / Pot hole (around gully): B5123 road in Halkyn and opposite the Old Central Stores / B5123 Road Halkyn: The Barracks (Quarry) Corner – the safety barrier is corroded and could cause an injury / Halkyn to Rhes Y Cae road: Potholes / Britannia Inn Pub, Halkyn: Pot holes on adjacent road / Martins Hill, Pentre Halkyn: Travelling up the hill near area of Bryn Eithin: Pot holes.

Condition of Adopted Highway in Rhes Y Cae

Complaints received by the Community Council in relation to the condition of an adopted highway in the area of Black Lion Farm to The Graig, Rhys Y Cae, also known as Ffordd Gefn. The Community Council requested that Flintshire County Highways inspect the area and provide a report. The report stated the following: "The County have a limited budget for resurfacing and defect rectification. Whilst the roads were subject to a County matrix assessment, there are numerous A and B roads that are in poor condition and require treatment. These roads in Rhes Y Cae will have signage installed at both entrances to highlight the current condition of the carriageway by stating that there are bumps ahead. In relation to the grassed areas, the painted stones are noted which should provide adequate protection and ensure that such drivers utilise the highway network correctly"

Planning Applications and Decisions

The Community Council makes comment on all planning applications that are received from Flintshire County Council. Details can be found in the monthly Council Minutes which are available on the Community Council web site – details as below. Planning decisions can be perused on the County Council planning portal:

Criminal Offences Reported Within the Community

The following offences were reported to the North Wales Police within the last three months:

Berth Ddu: 1 x Public order / 1 x Theft

Halkyn: 4 x Anti social behaviour / 1 x Public order / 2 x Violence

Pentre Halkyn: 1 x Burglary / 1 x Public order / 3 x Violence

Rhes-Y-Cae: 1 x Criminal damage

Rhosesmor: 4 x Anti social behaviour / 1 x Public order / 3 x Violence

The Nant: 2 x Violence

The Wern: No offences reported

Donations and Financial Support

The Community Council has provided the following financial assistance: £250.00 - Urdd National Eisteddfod / £500.00 - Holywell Leisure Centre (towards running costs) / £100.00 - Marie Curie Cymru (Daffodil Appeal – 2024) / £480.00 – New notice board in Rhos Helyg School in Berth Ddu / £150.00 – National Eisteddfod of Wales / £1,000.00 - Halkyn & District Bowling Club (Towards running costs and capital purchases).

Phillip Parry,

Clerk to Halkyn Community Council

Tel: 01352 720547

E-mail: clerk@halkyn.org.uk

Web Site: www.halkyn.org.uk

News regarding HMN financial loss to Printcentre Wales

The Trustees of Halkyn Mountain News (Kevin McIntyre, Susan Nuttall and Wendy Sigsworth) attended the winding up petition hearing of Printcentre Wales at Mold County Court on the 30th April.

They were advised, supported and led very efficiently by a local retired solicitor David Case. David is generously giving his time to assist Halkyn Mountain News in trying to retrieve the money, which was paid in good faith to Printcentre Wales. Having been paid by Halkyn Mountain News, Printcentre Wales closed its company without printing the Winter 2023 edition of the newsletter. There were other creditors at the court who were also owed significant amounts of money by Printcentre Wales.

We were supporting the petitioner in its appeal to liquidate Printcentre Wales. No one represented Printcentre Wales and the judge therefore liquidated the company as of 14.57 on the 30th April 2024.
Wendy Sigsworth

Editor's Note: all notifications relating to Printcentre Wales should appear on the Companies House website and be published in the London Gazette.

All readers please watch out for further developments and especially the naming of a company of liquidators and contact me at HalkynMountainNews@gmail.com

Cyngor Cymuned Helygain - Halkyn Community Council Community Award

The Community Council wishes to receive from residents nominations for a Community Award. The award is to promote pride and give recognition to those who have made a significant contribution within the community as something to be valued. The presentation of the award will provide an opportunity to increase awareness of those people - who voluntarily and selflessly work to improve and enhance the lives of people in the Halkyn Community Council area - and to allow that work to be celebrated. (Council area: Halkyn, Moel Y Crio, Pentre Halkyn, Rhes Y Cae, Rhosesmor, The Nant, The Wern & The Windmill).



The nominees can be an adult (over 18), a young person (under 18) or a Community Committee / Group, who must reside or be registered within the Halkyn Community Council boundary.

The award policy and nomination form are available to download from the Council's web site: www.halkyn.org.uk (Public & Financial – Page). Copies can be e-mailed or posted upon application to the Clerk – as contact details below.

The closing date for nominations is 12 Noon on Monday 8th July, 2024.

R. Phillip Parry – Clerk & Financial Officer to Halkyn Community Council
01352 720547 / clerk@halkyn.org.uk

CORNEL DYSGWYR CYMRAEG DYSGU CYMRAEG

Hannah Blythyn ydw i ac Aelod o'r Senedd dros Delyn ydw i. Dw i'n dysgu Cymraeg achos hoffwn i siarad mwy o Gymraeg yn Siambr y Senedd ac yn y gymuned hefyd. Pan o'n i yn yr ysgol yn Y Fflint, dysgais i Gymraeg ond wnes i erioed sefyll (took) arholiad. Ar hyn o bryd, dw i'n cael gwersi Cymraeg yn y Senedd bob wythnos a bydda i'n gwneud fy arholiad Cymraeg cyntaf yn Wrecsam mis nesaf.

Dechreuais i ddysgu Cymraeg eto pan o'n i'n byw yn Llundain. Mae teulu fy nhad yn dod o ardal Ffynnongroyw, sydd yn fy etholaeth i rwan. Roedd fy nhaid yn siaradwr Cymraeg iaith gyntaf ond roedd fy nain yn dod o Lerpwl. Yn anffodus, doedden nhw ddim yn siarad Cymraeg gyda'i gilydd a dyw fy nhad wedi bod yn siaradwr Cymraeg, fyddai e ddim wedi cwrdd â fy mam yn ysgol ramadeg Treffynnon! Dw i'n hapus i fod yn dysgu Cymraeg a dw i'n ceisio defnyddio ychydig o Gymraeg pan alla i – yn ateb cwestiynau'r Aelodau yn Gymraeg a'r llynedd siaradais i yn Gymraeg yn yr Eisteddfod. Yn y dyfodol, dw i isio siarad Cymraeg yn rhugl (!) a dw i'n cefnogi cynllun Llywodraeth Cymru o gael miliwn o siaradwyr Cymraeg erbyn 2050.

Hoffech chi ysgrifennu erthygl am ddysgu neu siarad Cymraeg yn y rhifyn nesaf? Anfonwch ei trwy e-bost at:
hmnarticles@gmail.com



WELSH LEARNERS' CORNER LEARNING WELSH

I'm Hannah Blythyn and I am the Member of the Senedd for Delyn. I am learning Welsh because I'd like to speak more Welsh in the Senedd Chamber and in the community as well. When I was at school in

Flint, I learnt Welsh but I never did an exam. At the moment, I have Welsh lessons in the Senedd every week and I will be doing my first Welsh exam in Wrexham next month.

I started learning Welsh again when I was living in London. My dad's family come from the Ffynnongroyw area, where I now represent. My Taid was a first language Welsh speaker but my nana came from Liverpool. Unfortunately, they didn't speak Welsh together and my dad has never learnt Welsh. However, if my dad spoke Welsh then he would not have met my mum at Holywell Grammar School!

I'm happy to be learning Welsh now and I try to use some Welsh when I can – answering questions in the Senedd in Welsh and last year I spoke in Welsh at the Eisteddfod. In the future I want to speak Welsh fluently (!) and I support the Welsh Government's plan for a million Welsh speakers by 2050.

Would you like to write an article about learning or speaking Welsh in the next edition? Send it by email to:
hmnarticles@gmail.com



Rhosesmor WI

Mellt, the storyteller, proved to be a very popular entertainer in March. I am unable to remember three things I want from the shop whilst Mellt can tell stories for an hour and more without a prompt. She has such a wonderful talent.

In April our speaker, Maxine Grundy, was promoting self help for well being through her books and techniques. I think we all learnt something to help us feel better about ourselves.

At our May meeting, we welcomed Dr Ray Manning, psychologist – perinatal mental health. He spoke about what can be done to help mum's mental health at a time of having a baby. Our WI is so lucky to have so many of Penny's (our president) relatives and friends who work in such interesting fields and are prepared to come and talk to us. Thank you, Penny.

As a WI we have had three outings out for lunch – Queens Head Inn Mold, Beaufort Park Hotel New Brighton and Crown Inn Lixwm. Although the fayre



varied tremendously between each venue we enjoyed them all.

Now is the time of year we renew our membership. I'm happy to say that recently our membership has increased year on year and this year is no exception. We are starting the year with 26 members. It is wonderful to be involved with such a movement, meeting and befriending people from the local community.

Contact me or any member if you want more details. Wendy Sigsworth 01352780394
wendysigsworth@gmail.com

Pentre Halkyn Spring Litter Pick

A Big Thank You to all who contributed to a successful Litter Pick on 23rd March.

Braving only a brief sprinkling of rain, two dozen enthusiastic volunteers set out from Pentre Halkyn Community Centre – and in two hours filled 45 large bags with litter and rubbish from the village's roadsides, byways and hedge bottoms and from the disused Pen yr Henblas quarry.

Wendy Jones from Caru Cymru/Keep Wales Tidy kindly supplied litter-picking equipment and sacks

and joined in the effort alongside several Cemex Quarry staff. Deputy Quarry Manager Vicky Harrison provided refreshments to ensure returning volunteers had hot drinks and biscuits waiting for them served by ladies from 'Ty Croeso', the Monday Coffee Morning team.

Alongside local public-spirited volunteers, Carolyn Thomas MS and County Councillors Simon Jones and (newly elected) Fran Lister - accompanied by her children - eagerly joined in, wielding litter-tongs and filling sacks around the village. At the end of the morning safe collection from the Centre and key points around the village was arranged by Neil Hickie from Flintshire Streetscene.

All involved agreed the effort to rid Pentre Halkyn of its accumulated litter was a job well done. But of course that wasn't the end of 'the scourge' in our village. Thoughtless folk – and especially those who throw fast food packaging and other 'waste' from vehicle windows - will, without suitable Litter Law enforcement, sadly ensure another "Community Litter Pick" will be needed before too long!

Mavis Midgley and Maureen Claydon.



MY SISTER



I was brought up on a farm between Northop and Rhosesmor with my brother and two sisters.

My eldest sister was the first born, parents happy to have their first child. Next came my brother, parents happy to have a son to take over the family farm. Next came me, oh well another girl! Last was my younger sister, parents spoilt her as she was the "baby". Of course all this bitterness was in my mind as I believed I was hard done by.

My first real memory was one day my little sister and I were playing out on the farm yard which held an old bath of water for the cattle to drink. We were playing in the water and suddenly she fell in (I can hear you saying did she fall or was she pushed). I dashed into the house to tell Mum who was looking after her friend's two month old twin boys and had them on her knee. She put the babies on the floor and ran out to rescue my sister from the bath and fortunately she was ok. Guess who got a smack, yes parents were allowed to smack their own children back then, yes it was ME - very unfair!

We always had clean clothes on a Monday morning

and this Monday we decided to play in an old hen shed. We were having a good time playing house until Mum came looking for us and found us covered in hen fleas! Once again, I got the blame as I should have known better. As we didn't have any more clean clothes we had to go back to bed until the clothes on the washing line dried.

Living on a farm there are lots of jobs to do, mine were to feed the calves and hens. My sister was not assigned any jobs, the bathroom and our bedroom cleaned themselves and the setting of the table every meal time - well just happened.

On a Friday Mum would go shopping and our treat was a Mars bar which my sister and I had to share and would you believe it in my mind my half was always the smallest and the same thing used to happen when we shared an apple.

As you have probably guessed by now I was jealous of my younger sister but as we grew up we grew closer and I looked out for her. One instance was when I sneaked her through the front door because my Nain was in the kitchen and my sister was very drunk!



I expect you are all wondering who this lady is. She is a stalwart of your community.

She rings the bells in Halkyn church, is treasurer of Rhosesmor WI, is a Community Councillor and she works very hard to contribute to the Halkyn Mountain News.

This lady is my sister and best friend:

WENDY SIGSWORTH

Submitted by Jen Walker nee Taylor



Hollywell Area Community Museum News

This week marks the end of the Museum Community Warm Hub. We were fortunate to get funding from Flintshire County Council and through the good offices of our volunteers managed to feed over 200 people in a warm and inviting environment. We now have a Thomas Pennant exhibition detailing his life and works. Thomas Pennant lived at Downing Hall between Mostyn and Whitford, being an antiquarian, traveller, naturalist and writer. His book *The History of the Parishes of Whitford and Holywell* was published in 1796 with many illustrations by Moses Griffith. Our thanks go to Paul Brighton.

Another exhibition being organised reflects the Darwen & Mostyn Iron works which dominated the banks of the River Dee at Mostyn until its closure in 1964 following its takeover by Arusha Industries which culminated in a stock exchange investigation and criminal proceedings.

Our weekly Monday bingo session hosted by volunteer Colin goes from strength to strength. Everyone is welcome.

This week we installed a large white porcelain trough at the front of the Museum which will certainly brighten up the High Street. Its origins are The Point Of Ayr Colliery and it was used by the ponies which worked underground. Upcoming events include the Car Show which is being held in the High Street and a commemoration of D Day, both at which we will have a presence. Local Historian Russ Warburton will be organising The Museum D Day display. Please call in, have a look around and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee.

As usual our thanks go to the Holywell Town Council, Wales & West Housing Association and, not forgetting, our band of volunteers who do so much to keep The Museum functioning. Finally, don't forget that the museum has a small retail area selling local history books together with gifts.

Please pop in; it will be lovely to see you. If you want any information on anything which is happening please phone the museum 01352217170 Jodie Bennett (Manager)

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St Paul's Church and The Outpost

Entering into the Spring we were treated to a splendid evening of musical entertainment from the Halkyn Mountain Youth. Please see separate article about the Youth Concert.

On Saturday 27 April in St Paul's Church a number of participants from the Halkyn Mountain area took part in a Mental Health First Aid Course, an introduction to identifying, understanding and responding to signs of mental illness.

On 11 May the Spring was welcomed in with the uplifting rhythm and beat of the **93rd Minute**. The 93rd minute (Steve, Phil, Sara and Luis) is a Flintshire based group and they have been playing traditional folk together for more than 10 years. They previously had a regular slot at the Blue Bell pub and you may have heard them there. We enjoyed a relaxed musical evening with a variety of material and plenty of opportunity to join in.



On 21 June Cŵr Cilcain will treat us once again to a selection of their classical and modern songs. Refreshments and raffle will complement

what will hopefully be a warm and joyful summer evening.

Pupils from Ysgol Rhos Helyg have been busy marking the 150 anniversary of the laying of the

foundation stone of St Paul's on 27 August 1874 by drawing their own interpretations of the church which is in the centre of the village. Their work will be on display in the church from 1 to 12 July with a view to producing a selection of notelets available in the Outpost shop to commemorate the laying of the church foundation stone.

Watch out for the report in the next edition of HMN for the results of the tallest sunflower competition.

Throughout July Can Cook/Well-Fed will be providing an Eat Well, Cook Easy course on Wednesdays from 1pm to 3pm in Rhosesmor Village Hall. The 4 week course offers places for 12 participants who will receive a gift Slo Cooker along with ingredients and a recipe to prepare each week. The course includes plenty of advice on coping with cooking healthy family meals on a budget.



The dates of the course are Wednesday 3, 10, 17 and 24 July.

If you would like to take part please text your details to 07947046695

Save the Date

St Paul's Church

21 June: 7 pm Cŵr Cilcain

1 to 12 July: Ysgol Rhos Helyg celebrates 150th anniversary of the laying of St Paul's Church foundation stone

Tallest sunflower competition

Rhosesmor Village Hall

3, 10, 17 & 24 July: 1pm to 3 pm Eat Well, Cook Easy Course (12 places with free Slo Cooker)

.....
Memory Lane

Five North Walians including Owen Davies from Halkyn contributed positively to the first win on Welsh soil for Wales in an International football match against England



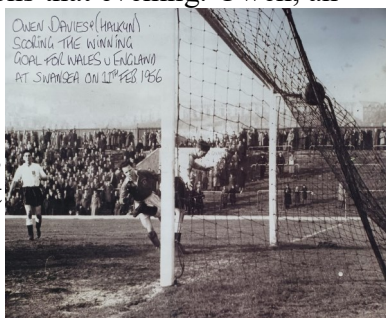
Many described him as being too small for a centre forward but Owen Davies proved them wrong when he scored the winning goal against England on 11 February, 1956. The game was played on a frozen pitch (no under pitch heating then) at the Vetch Swansea. There were five North Walians playing on the team that historic day when Wales beat England in an amateur international for the first time on Welsh soil.

Thirty-three men from Halkyn Mountain went to support the Dragons, three of them Owen's footballing brothers, Glyn, Emlyn and Meirion. England soon went into the lead in the first half but Wales got one back when Owen flicked the ball on to Peter Rees who scored the equaliser. The Dragons were now breathing fire and Owen always seemed to

be in the right place at the right time. Early in the second half Owen had a series of passes in the fifteen yard box with team mates and put himself in an excellent position to score. Owen put the ball in the back of the net and landed there himself. Once he disentangled himself he was smothered by his Welsh team mates. It proved to be the winning goal for Wales. England was lucky not to concede more goals before the end of the game.

The roar of delight from the Welsh supporters seemed to start with the thirty-three men from the mountain. The words 'Come on Owen Bach' could be heard throughout the stadium. Owen told Welsh listeners through the BBC how happy he was to play for Wales and score the winning goal. Swansea was buzzing with celebrations that evening. Owen, an unassuming and quiet

man, bought himself a ticket for a pantomime and enjoyed that performance also. This game was Owen's first game playing for Wales - needless to say it wasn't the last.



Halkyn Parish Hall and Library

The hall is available for private functions including weddings, christenings, birthday parties (children's birthday parties up to 12 years old), meetings, presentations, courses, etc.

The Hall now has facilities for presentations and promotions with a wide screen TV available. For more information ring the caretaker - Colin Roberts 07934 669794

Weekly Diary

Monday Over 50s club - 1st Monday in the month: also monthly outings - contact Ron 01352715723

Tuesday Zumba 6.00 - 7.00pm contact zumbawithvix@gmail.com

Snooker Club 7:00pm - new members welcome - contact Andy Wood 01352 780159

The Snooker Table is also available for hire - contact Colin Roberts 07934 669794

Wednesday Charities Coffee Morning 10.30 - 12.00pm - 1st Wednesday in the month

Thursday Halkyn W.I. 2.00 - 4.00pm
Clerical Error Border Morris Dancers 8.00 - 10.00pm - contact Colin 07934 669794

Friday Post Office 4.00 - 4.30pm

Library 1:30 - 7:00pm

Saturday Halkyn Mountain Quilters - contact Elaine 07871 586942

Sunday Sound Therapy with Rachel - for dates & times contact her on 07951740112

Heartfelt Craft Fairs 22nd June & 16th November 10.00am - 3.00pm



Rhybudd Cymunedol
Community Alert



HEDDLU GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES POLICE

Urgency: [3] [2] [1]

CYBER

SCAM WARNING

Watch out for FAKE McAfee emails, they've once again been reported over 4,500 times.

The emails attempts to trick the recipient into clicking on a fraudulent link by stating that the recipient's computer "could be at risk" from "viruses and other malware" if they don't renew their anti-virus subscription.

✓ Report suspicious emails by forwarding them to: report@phishing.gov.uk

i Your reports enable the National Cyber Security Centre to remove emails and websites used to perpetrate fraud.



Rhybudd Cymunedol
Community Alert



HEDDLU GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES POLICE

Urgency: [3] [2] [1]

CYBER

RHYBUDD SCAM

Gwylwch allan am e-byst FFUG McAfee, maen nhw wedi cael eu riportio dros 4,500 o weithiau unwaith eto.

Mae'r e-byst yn ceisio twyllo'r derbynnydd i glicio ar ddolen dwyllodrus drwy honni y gallai cyfrifiadur y derbynnydd "fod mewn perygl" o "firsau a meddalwedd maleisus arall" os na fyddent yn adnewyddu ei tanysgrifiad gwrth-firws.

✓ Riportiwch e-byst amheus drwy eu hanfon ymlaen at: report@phishing.gov.uk

i Mae eich adroddiadau yn galluogi'r Ganolfan Seiberddiogelwch Genedlaethol i ddileu e-byst a gwefannau a ddefnyddir i gyflawni twyll.

 **Message Sent By** Dewi Owen
Cyber Crime Officer, North Wales Police

Let's hear it for Rhes y Cae!

The Publication team wants to know your view about the correct way to spell/write the name of the village, Rhes y Cae.

Various spellings appear in your articles and we have decided to reproduce whatever is provided as long as it is consistent throughout the piece.

But - what do you think? Should it be: **Rhes y Cae**, **Rhes Y Cae**, **Rhes-y-Cae**, **Rhes y cae**, **Rhesycae**? Or something else? And why? Send your opinion and explanation to the

Editor halkynmountainnews@gmail.com

Also, there is a debate about the meaning/English translation of the name itself. Do you have a view on this? Look out for a summary in the Autumn issue.

Rhes y Cae & Moel y Crio 71st Show

Sheepdog Trials, Horse Show, Fun Run

Rhes y Cae & Moel y Crio Sheepdog Trials & Show

The show will be held at Rhes y Cae on the 26th & 27th of July.

The sheep dog trials will take place on the Friday afternoon and the Sheepdog Trials, Horse Show and Produce/Crafts will take place on the Saturday starting at 8 am.

Please support the show as it is your show and the only one on the mountain.

Schedules will be available from shops, pubs and notice boards and Committee members.

If you have a problem obtaining one please let me know.

Menna Coleclough (Secretary)

01352780271 or email

pistyllfarm@btconnect.com

Diolch



SESIWN COGINIO - COOKING SESSION

Enjoy and enter your loaf for the show - on the 27th July

Rysait ar gyfer Sioe Rhes y Cae a Moel y Crio
Torth Weetabix

Cynhwysion

2 Weetabix

6 owns / 150g siwgr brown

6 owns / 150g ffrwythau cymysg

Hanner peint / 600ml o lefrith

1 wy

6 owns / 150g blawd codi



Dull

1. Mwydwch y ffrwythau, siwgr a Weetabix yn y lefrith am hanner awr

2. Ychwanegwch y blawd ar wy a'u cymysgu

3. Rhowch y gymysgedd mewn tin crasu torth wedi ei leinio

4. Craswch am oddeutu 55-60 munud ar 350/180/4

Mwynhewch a chofiwch roi cunning arni yn y sioe

Recipe for the Rhes y Cae & Moel y Crio Show
Weetabix Loaf

Ingredients

2 Weetabix

6 ozs / 150g brown sugar

6 ozs / 150g mixed fruit

Half a pint of milk / 600ml

1 egg

6 ozs / 150g self raising flour



Method

1. Soak the fruit, sugar and Weetabix in the milk for half an hour

2. Mix in the flour and the beaten egg

3. Put the mixture into a lined loaf tin

4. Bake for 55-60 minutes at 350/180/4

Enjoy and enter it for the show

Halkyn WI

We meet at the Village Hall on the first Thursday of each month at 2.00pm with the exception of May when we meet on the second Thursday to make way for any elections. As part of the largest women's organisation in the UK we are a trusted place for all women of all generations to meet socially, share experiences and learn from each other. As well as an interesting programme of guest speakers and outings, we also have crafts sessions, quizzes and other fun activities and frequently engage in social activities with other WIs in the area.

In February, our guest speakers were members of the Carmel and Holywell Wood Crafting Association. They gave an excellent talk and demonstration about wood turning and carving and displayed a range of stunning items that had been produced by their members. In March, we were joined by Joan Winwood from HMP Berwyn in Wrexham. Along with her husband, who is the Chaplain at the prison, she talked about the ways in which the Prison Fellowship supports the families of the prisoners. Ian Strong, a local musician, attended our April meeting and entertained us with a range of tunes from across the years. Mr Strong took up playing keyboards as a physical therapy following severe burns to his hands while working as a Firefighter - an excellent example of 'triumph over adversity'.

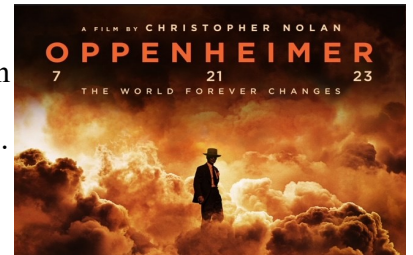


We are a small, friendly group and would welcome new members. Anyone interested should contact Hazel Hughes on 01352-781354. You are welcome to visit us as a guest before committing to membership.

Halkyn Mountain Cinema Update Summer 2024

Our March film, *The Great Escaper*, was a sell-out success and we have some more great films lined up for you.

On **May 25th** we showed the big Oscar winner **Oppenheimer** starring Cillian Murphy. The film tells the story of J. Robert Oppenheimer, the American physicist who helped to develop the first nuclear weapons in World War Two. This biographical thriller follows his life charting his rise and fall from grace.



We are taking a break in the Summer.

Then, on **7th September**, we are showing **One Life** - the true story of British humanitarian, Nicholas Winton. It stars Anthony Hopkins and Johnny Flynn in the main roles but also features Holywell born Jonathan Pryce. Nicholas Winton helped groups of Jewish children to hide and flee German-occupied Czechoslovakia just before the start of World War Two. His largely unknown story was brought to the British public's attention in an episode of the BBC TV show, *That's Life*, when he was reunited with some of the children he saved. An amazing, emotional story.

On **November 23rd** we will be screening **The Holdovers** - a Christmas comedy drama. Set in the early 1970s, a strict teacher at a New England boarding school is forced to chaperone a small group of students over the Christmas break. Da'Vine Joy Randolph won the Best Supporting Actress Oscar for her role as the school's cafeteria manager who also stays over the Christmas break and joins the unlikely group. It's a comical Christmas caper - we think you'll like it.

The Holdovers



Tickets are available from our website two to three weeks beforehand
www.mountaincinema.org.uk

Light refreshments (including tea, coffee and popcorn) are available on the night. For more information please go to our website and sign up for the mailing list or follow us on Facebook.

www.mountaincinema.org.uk www.facebook.com/halkynmountaincinema

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Jean Kendrick. Secretary, Halkyn Mountain Cinema Committee.

SHEE SPINNER

(The ramblings of a dog daft hand spinner and dyer on the mountain)

Making yarn is all about adding twist to fibres, in our case wool. Hand spinners incorporate twist into wool fibres either by using spinning wheels or spindles.

The humble spindle is an inexpensive means to create yarn. Spindles have been used throughout human history and across continents.

Spindles come in a multitude of shapes and sizes but, in essence, there are 2 types of spindle.

1. The suspended spindle or drop spindle
2. The supported spindle.

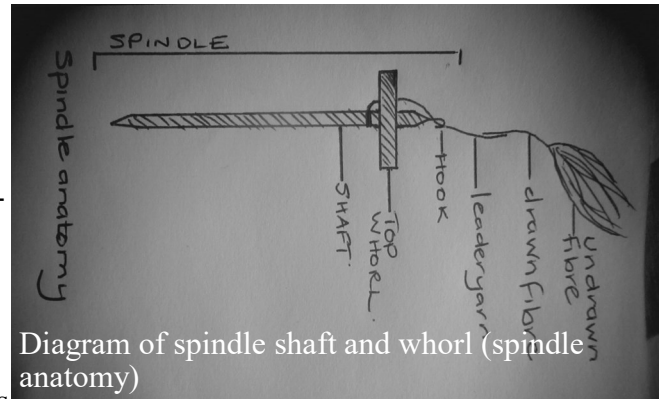
Today, we will cover the world of suspended spindles...

In its simplest form, a suspended spindle consists of a shaft and a whorl.

Suspended spindles can be split into 3 further categories:-

1. Bottom whorl/low whorl spindles
2. Top or high whorl spindles
3. Turkish spindles

The suspended spindle is so called because it spins hanging from the yarn it produces. A leader yarn which is a length of premade yarn is attached around the shaft of the spindle. The leader is brought upward and placed through the hook to secure it. A piece of pre-drafted fibre is placed alongside the leader yarn. The



spindle is set into motion either by the hand spinner twisting or flicking the shaft in a clockwise direction with their fingers or rolling the whorl along their outer thigh. The spinner then drops it leaving it to spin on its own, being suspended by the yarn held by the hand spinner. The twist enters the leader yarn then the pre drafted fibre making a single ply of yarn. Once there is enough twist in the yarn to give the yarn strength, the yarn is wound round the shaft. The collection of spun yarn wound around the shaft is called a cop. This process is repeated until you have spun enough yarn for your textile project.

(A top whorl spindle with a conical cop of yarn spun from beautiful brown Shetland fibres.)

Spindles can be made of many materials. The shaft is usually made of wood or metal, whereas the whorls can be made from wood, metal, ceramic, polymer clay, glass or carved stone. Many spinners begin their spinning journey using an inexpensive spindle made from an old CD or DVD for a whorl with dowel shaft. But accomplished spindle spinners produce spindle spun yarn on elaborate spindles that are works of art.



The beauty of spindles is that they are portable and inexpensive. You can spin anywhere with a spindle. You can spin whilst walking on the Mountain if you really want to! I like to call spindle spun yarn hung, drawn, spun fun!

Shee spinner spins sheeps soft sumptuous shearings so sheep stay smiling

Message from Hannah Blythyn MS

Since my last HMN column, the Easter break gave me the chance to get out and about in the constituency and meet people to discuss the issues that affect them. I have started my street surgeries for 2024 and recently I was out in Talacre and Mostyn.



My street surgeries always offer a good opportunity for me to reach out to different parts of the constituency and for people to raise any issues with me from the comfort of their own homes. Over the coming weeks and months, I'm planning on doing other street surgeries across the constituency. This will be alongside my regular appointment advice sessions which you can book an appointment for by contacting my office on the details below.

Back in April I met with Sustrans to discuss this Charity's new report on the National Cycle Network which runs up the Dee Estuary from Connah's Quay towards Holywell and then up to the coast. The report, entitled Walk, Wheel and Thrive, details the benefits of cycling and sets out the contribution of the National Cycle Network against all seven of Wales' wellbeing goals and highlights the urgent action needed to protect this important asset for future generations. The National Cycle Network includes more than 1,200 miles of cycle paths in Wales passing through every one of our local authority areas. It passes within a mile of almost 60% of the population connecting many schools, universities and workplaces making safe, healthy, low-cost travel to work, school or university a real possibility for many people. We had the chance to discuss further opportunities for investment in our area and plans to get out on the network later in the summer.



Hannah Blythyn MS out & about in Mostyn and Talacre



In April the rules on workplace recycling changed in Wales. It is now a legal requirement in Wales for all businesses, charities and public sector organisations to sort their waste for recycling much in the same way as we all do with our household waste. The changes will increase recycling and reduce the amount of waste sent for incineration and to landfill and putting the recycling in different bins will improve its quality making it more likely the

materials can be used by Welsh businesses instead of being exported.

As many of you might already know, BT is planning to switch off its analogue phone system – known as the PSTN system – at the end of 2025. I know many Flintshire residents will be concerned by this big change in the way their landline phone works and there will be plenty of questions which will need to be answered. A good starting point is this article from Ofcom – www.ofcom.org.uk/phones-telecoms-and-internet/advice-for-consumers/future-of-landline-calls - which details the requirements that phone companies have to fulfil as part of the switch-over to digital phone technology on landlines. I'll be keeping a close eye on this issue in the months ahead so, if you want any help or if you have any questions, do reach out to my office for assistance – you can call 01352 753464 or email me hannah.blythyn@senedd.wales

Finally, over the last few weeks, I have been reaching out to local businesses and companies across the constituency to see if they can offer work experience opportunities for 14 to 16 year-olds.

With year 10 and year 11 students approaching their GCSEs and other qualifications, many will start to look ahead to what they want their career to be; others will want to start a part time job during their studies. This work follows on from the Democracy in Action Day that I hosted in autumn last year for secondary schools from across Flintshire. Young people on the day raised access to decent work

experience opportunities as something that they thought there could be more of. It's really important for young people to have the best start when entering the world of work and that's why I am looking for companies and businesses to offer quality work experience for young people. If you are or know a business where you could provide some work experience, please get in touch with my office.

As always, if you would like advice and/or support, please don't hesitate to get in touch on any of the following contact details – 52 High Street, Mold, Flintshire, on 01352 753464 or, if you prefer, by email hannah.blythyn@senedd.wales. If you use social media, you can also keep up to date via my Facebook page – www.facebook.com/HannahBlythynForDelyn. Constituents are, of course, welcome to contact my office to arrange an appointment to see me. You don't need to wait until an advice surgery.

The Wonders of Late Spring and Early Summer Wildflowers

This year the early Spring flowers appeared very early despite the grey days and heavy rain, however, the cold weather in April seemed to slow down progress. In sheltered woodlands the flowers have done well but on Halkyn Mountain the flowering season is only just now starting at the end of April. Look out for the following flowers on Halkyn Mountain in late Spring and Summer.



1. Gorse flowers are a welcome sight on dreary days, the bright yellow flowers brighten up the Mountain and make us feel better, on warm days the heady coconut scent is wonderful and the prickly leaves provide protective nesting sites for small birds such as Goldfinches. The smaller Western Gorse is also present on the Mountain; this begins flowering in August.

2. Early Purple Orchids are first of the orchids to flower, usually in May; they have bright pink/purple flowers with spotted leaves. It is thought that the 'long purples' in Shakespeare's Hamlet are in fact Early Purple Orchids.

3. Spring Sandwort or Leadwort is only to be found growing on old lead workings where most other plants are unable to grow because of the toxic nature of the soil. They are small spreading plants with narrow leaves and white flowers, well known by local people.

4. Common Vetch is an interesting plant in the pea family; in order to protect itself, it has black spots on its stipules (leaf-like structures) which exude nectar on which ants feed; the ants in turn guard the plant against predators. The roots of all pea family plants fix nitrogen in soils which acts as natural fertiliser.

5. Another plant in the pea family is Bitter-vetch, a scrambling plant of grassy places; the flowers are purple fading to blue or green and the sepals are unusually blue rather than green. The root tubers of the plants used to be dried and eaten during times of famine; they suppressed appetite and thirst rather than providing any nourishment! Thank goodness for the humble potato!

6. Germander or Bird's-eye Speedwell has blue flowers which resemble a bird's eye. Look out for the five other Speedwells that can be found on the Mountain, namely: Heath, Thyme-leaved, Ivy-leaved, Wall and Marsh, the last one is uncommon in Flintshire.

7. You may see patches of bright yellow flowers in Summer; these are Rock-roses, plants of limestone grassland and an important nectar source for bees and butterflies. These little shrubby plants are generally in decline, if they disappear, it is unlikely they will be able to re-establish themselves, we need to treasure them.

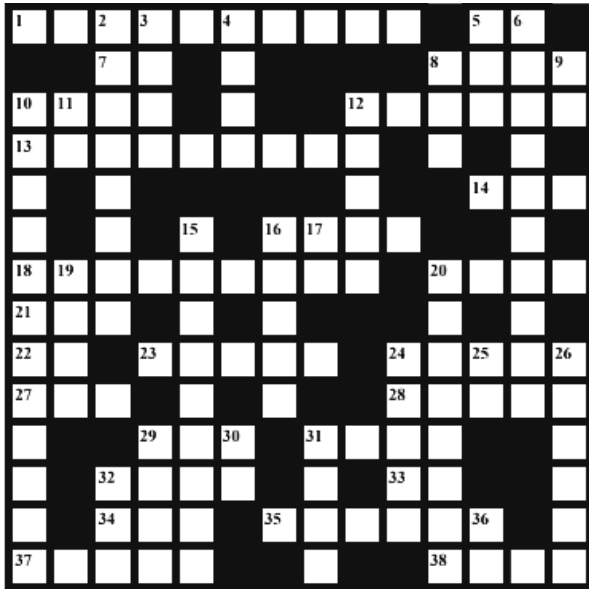


8. Eyebright is a very small plant which has long been used for infections of the eye. Its small white or purple flower are said to resemble eyelashes. The plant is an annual which taps into mainly grasses for water and minerals (a hemiparasite).

9/10. We all notice grass, it grows everywhere, but did you know that we have more than 30 different grass species on the Mountain? Ones that you may have seen are Quaking-grass and Crested Dog's-tail. Look out for others; their flowers are all surprisingly different!

For our 2024 guided walks on the Mountain check out www.facebook.com/Halkynmountainconserv
Happy Plant Hunting - Mavis Midgley

Crossword No. 4



ACROSS

- 1 TEMPORARY CESSATIO
- 5 EXPLAIN LOCATION
- 7 SMALL THANKS
- 12 EARLIAR
- 13 BOAT PARK
- 14 INTERJECTION
- 16 LEFT
- 18 WORRYING
- 20 AID
- 21 TOOTHED WHEEL
- 22 OPPOSITE TO OUT
- 23 COOL GUYS
- 24 SIDE
- 27 FORMERLY
- 28 WASH AWAY
- 29 WITHDRAWING
- 31 POD VEGETABLE
- 32 DETEST
- 33 UNKIND REFERENCE
- 34 PAST
- 35 DEFICIENT
- 37 BOYS NAME
- 38 COARSE FIBRE

DOWN

- SINGLE HOSIERY 2
- WALKWAY 3
- CLOSE BY 4
- COMMOTION 5
- WATERPROOF COVERS 6
- TOWARD THE BACK 8
- SELF REFERENCE 9
- IMAGINES 10
- NOT OFF 11
- ENTITY 12
- FLINTSHIRE TOWN 15
- SPECIFIC 16
- SAME AS 11 DOWN 17
- NOT EVEN ONE 19
- ORGANIC RELATIONSHI 20
- WEAK 24
- USE BEFORE VOWEL 25
- SENTINEL 26
- TYPE OF PUDDING 29
- OLD YOU 30
- BABY CARRIER 31
- OVERACT 32
- CARRY OUT 36

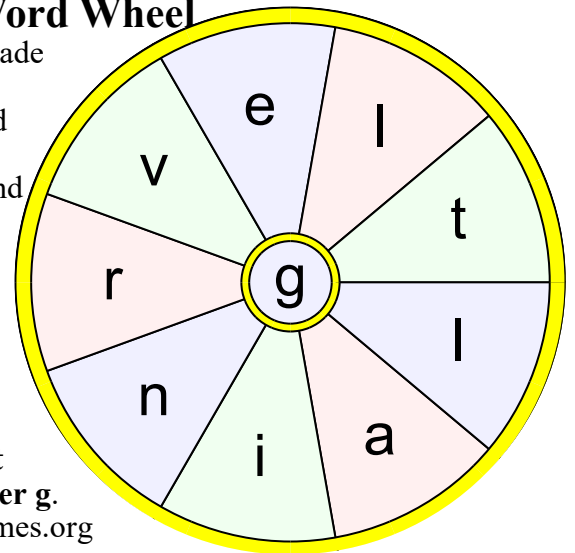
WordSearch No. 6

S S E L D N E P I T S A R S
 S E P O Y D A E R N H V P T
 B J S K U M F I S S U R E S
 U O S S A M A R I N D N S U
 N J J S U N H N V S I T W O
 S U L K G F I N A N C I E R
 G A O U M F S W E A T S K E
 B Q L E U I S E C H A S E T
 A A A N P P T R L Y T U G S
 R A G E S P C I K G E E R O
 R U G G E D I B A R N S K P
 I P M I I S D B O N F I R E
 E Q D R I R N E G J K E R R
 R R A L U C I D N E P R E P

Crossword & Word Search kindly supplied by geoffclen.co.uk

Summer Word Wheel

This wheel is made from a 10 letter Summer themed word. Try and find the word and make as many words of any length as you can from these letters. You can only use each letter once and each word **must include the letter g**.
 Design: edu-games.org



A Summer Gift
 Please colour me in!



It's a beautiful sunny day as you arrive at the Woodland Skills

Centre in Bodfari. Standing in the carpark you have trees to your back, a camp site to your left, workshop and gift shop to your right and a low wooden building in front of you. On being shown into the building it is clear that it is built the old way - exposed beams, natural fibre walls and a large black wood stove in the corner (no need for that today). As your tea or coffee is being made it is explained to



you that you are now standing in Denbighshire's very first Carbon Neutral building and the heart of the Woodland Skills Centre.

As we stroll back out after coffee you discover that the Woodland Skills Centre is a not-for-profit Social Enterprise.

You learn that much of the site you are about to see is maintained by the participants on our Social Prescribing programme which helps a wide range of participants with complex disabilities to make a real impact on the world you now see around you.



We head first over to the workshop where our participants make a range of items from bird boxes and hedgehog boxes for schools and conservation bodies to signs and old style willow fencing and hurdles.

Back outside we turn past the wood yard and down the sandy lane between the heritage orchard and the wild flower meadow. We explain more of the amazing health and wellbeing that we encourage in all visitors especially our social prescribing participants. We tell you how they tend the orchard, collect and store the wild flower seeds and then plant them out in any one of our three poly tunnels and grow on more wild flowers to replant the following year. Growing far more than we need, we also distribute them to other conservation sites. We point out the pond to your left, the educational tree walk and the hidden reading circle in the woods. We inform you that the trip will show you what stands on the 10 acres of multi use land but that there is also a further 40 acres of publicly accessible woodland behind us that we encourage you to enjoy after the

tour. See if you can find the round house or publicly open woodworking shelter or any one of our three woodland school sites.

Down on the lower part of the site you can already hear the chickens running around their enclosure. Participants collect the eggs for cooking and for sale in the gift shop; we then head along to see the allotments. Some are private but the one we stop at is maintained entirely by our social prescribing participants who get to take home anything they grow or cook it in our kitchen. Passing this year's vegetables, we visit the hidden newt pond before our next stop at the market garden and vineyard. The participants grow produce in the market garden for sale as veg-boxes in the gift shop and help tend the small vineyard.

As we stroll back around the sandy lane, at the back of the site, we pass areas that the participants have planted with trees and also some of this season's hedge laying. Keeping the old skills and crafts alive is an integral part of our work here; in fact we run craft and skills courses for the public all year round.



Walking the back to our start point in the calm and peace of the site, we can listen to the birds and see just a glimpse of the amazing range of wildlife that now co-exists with us on this site.

We hope you've enjoyed your 'virtual' tour but if you'd like to see what we do for real, please come along to The Woodland Skills Centre and we'd be happy to show you around.

Best Wishes Lina Patel,
Centre Manager for Social Prescribing and Traditional Craft Courses
Email: lina@woodlandskillscentre.co.uk
Tel: 01745 710626 or 07732 782786



Halkyn Mountain Family Nature Day



We will be holding a Family Nature Day on Saturday July 6th 2024, 11am to 4pm. Our aim is to share knowledge and appreciation of the mountain and all its biodiversity. We will be based in Halkyn Parish Hall where there will be stalls, displays and refreshments. North Wales Wildlife Trust will be joining us.

We will organise activities for children in and around the hall including insect and wild flower spotting.

At 2 pm there will be a guided walk from the hall looking at plants on the common.

Hope you can join us.
www.facebook.com/Halkynmountainconserv



Message from Cllr Simon Jones

Recent Election

I hope this article finds you well and enjoying the warmer weather and the lighter evenings. I am delighted to share updates with you all, including the recent election of Fran Lister as our new councillor for Brynford and Halkyn Ward. The bi-election was held after Jean Davies' seat was declared vacant due to her long term illness. I would like to thank Jean for her many years of service and wish her all the best with her recovery.

I am genuinely looking forward to working alongside Councillor Lister in serving our community. Fran's dedication and passion for our ward are evident and I am confident that, together, we will make an effective team for the residents of Brynford and Halkyn. By collaborating closely, Fran and I hope to apply additional pressure at County Hall to ensure that the needs and concerns of our community are heard and addressed.

During Fran's campaign, one of the most fulfilling aspects was the opportunity to engage with so many of you on your doorsteps. Personally, I thoroughly enjoyed these conversations, listening to your thoughts, concerns and ideas for our community's future. Your input is invaluable and I am grateful for the opportunity to connect with you in this meaningful way once again.

Road repairs

Now that the weather has improved, you may have noticed the pothole repair team out and about across the ward performing emergency repairs. While many of these repairs are temporary patch-up jobs, they are essential for ensuring the safety of our roads until full repairs can be made. It's important to note that demands for resources are high not just in our ward but across the county and indeed the nation. Despite these challenges, we remain committed to addressing infrastructure issues and improving our local roads for the benefit of all residents.

Rural crime team day

I spent Sunday 28th April with the North Wales rural crime team in Brynford and Halkyn. It was the first of many operations planned this spring and summer to catch,

prosecute and confiscate off-road vehicles. I'd like to thank the various residents in each village who knew about the operation in advance and who called

incidents through to us so that we could respond. We were also joined by Liverpool John Moore University's forensic team who took soil samples from various areas around the common to form a unique "geological DNA print". These will be analysed and kept on file so any bike, quad or 4x4



that is stopped in north Wales or the north west can be swab tested. If the tiniest amount of matching soil is found, then prosecution will commence.

These operations will be ongoing on random days and at random times giving a clear message that off-roading on Halkyn and Brynford common now comes with great risk of being caught. Fines will be issued and vehicles destroyed for repeat offenders. We have managed to secure this commitment due to so many residents calling 101 and reporting a pattern of repeated illegal activity over the last few months. It's imperative you continue to do so as this will secure future resources from the Police. After pot holes and bin collections, complaints about off-road vehicles are the next highest number of calls that I receive so I know that addressing this issue is important to a high number of residents.

Community Litter picks

I was delighted to help out recently on both the Pentre Halkyn and the Brynford community litter picks. There was a great turn out of local residents at both events and we collected a large number of bin bags full of litter. I would like to thank Mavis and the Keep Wales Tidy team for organising the Pentre Halkyn event as well as staff at the Cemex quarry for coming along to help clean up the village. Also thank you to the Brynford Community Council and the local branch of the Air Cadets for organising the Brynford event as well as Holywell Golf Club for providing refreshments.

Engaging with You

Fran & I look forward to hearing from you with any issues or concerns. In the near future we will set up drop-in sessions.

Please keep an eye on our Facebook pages for dates and venues. You can contact either of us via email at simon.jones@flintshire.gov.uk or fran.lister@flintshire.gov.uk

Warm regards Simon Jones
County Councillor

A farmer's tale

Dafydd bought a pedigree ram from a friendly farmer called Owain for £100.
The following day the ram dropped down dead!
Owain told Dafydd "Sorry about the ram mate."
Dafydd replied "No problem, I'll have me money back!"
Owain says "I don't have it cos I've spent it."
Dafydd responds "Ok then, I'll raffle him off!"
Owain says "You can't raffle a dead ram!"
Dafydd offers "Just watch - I won't tell anybody he's dead."
A month later Owain meets Dafydd and asks "What happened to the dead ram?"
Dafydd answers "I raffled him. I sold 500 tickets at £2 a piece and made a profit of £998".
The farmer, Owain says "Didn't anyone complain?"
Dafydd replied "Just the guy that won, so I gave him back his £2."
Does anyone know if the profit is actually £898? Editor

Ysgol Rhos Helyg News Report Summer 2024

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 would like to share with you a flavour of the things that have happened since our last article.

School Eisteddfod

We celebrated a very successful Eisteddfod where Welsh poetry and song filled the hall. The children had also worked very hard on their arts and crafts which made the most beautiful display. This was a wonderful afternoon celebrating Welsh tradition and the expressive arts.

We were grateful to Mrs Nia Jones, Deputy Head of Ysgol Maes Garmon, for judging the afternoon competitions. The Winning House was Alun for the first time in living memory!



Glan Llyn

Our pupils from Years 5 and 6 visited Glan Llyn in Bala for a Residential Course designed to foster their Welsh Language skills. The pupils enjoyed a wide range of adventurous activities but venturing onto the Lake in a 'rafft' was a highlight.



Music Performance

Our Year 3 pupils have been having cello lessons this year funded by The Welsh Government. They have had a weekly lesson from September and they have made steady progress in learning to play the Cello. Recently our pupils had the opportunity to play with The BBC Orchestra at Wrexham and they were amazing.

Topic Work

Pupils have been looking at floating and sinking in their Titanic Topic.



Cadi Ha

The Cadi Ha event has been held at Holywell for many, many years and the school has always enjoyed taking part in this local festival. The children have worked hard to learn the dances and performed very well in front of an appreciative crowd.



'Trashion' Show

The children have been very imaginative in their work by designing clothing out of recycled materials to share the message of reusing at the end of a Topic on Waste.



School Gardens

The children have been preparing their planting areas for the new growing season.



Inspirational Visitor

Bart Gee recently came to school to talk about his disability, Arthrogryposis (weak muscles and stiff joints).

Bart's message was that when something is **difficult, hard or challenging**, it is still **possible!**

Bart showed the children that he takes part in various sports, even Triathlons. He played the piano beautifully and showed the pupils that, despite needing two hands to write, he produced lovely joined up writing.



Holywell Golf Club

With a few nice days of sunshine over the last couple of weeks, we are almost reassured Spring is here and Summer hopefully not far behind.



The start of the golfing season as a result of the weather resulted in the first Major competitions being played over 15 holes instead of 18 but with the continual hard work of our green staff and a couple of minor changes to the course set up we are now playing the full 18 holes on a daily basis with members and visitors alike enjoying the quirky and challenging course we have here in Brynford.

2024 is hopefully going to be a good year for all. We have welcomed in our new Captains, Mr Dave Hughes, Mrs Lorraine Roberts and also Dominic Henson our Junior Captain. This happened on a cold and blustery day on March 31st and everyone wishes them well for their year in office.

We have seen a large interest in our FREE junior lessons which occur every Wednesday between 5pm and 6pm. This is a great way for youngsters to learn and be introduced to the game of golf alongside children of their own age and abilities. Now that the nights are getting lighter and longer we hope to see these sessions thrive with new members who can go on to play in some of our golf competitions within the club and also across Flintshire with the Junior Sixes. The GolfSixes League involves teams of 6, playing six holes in pairs using the highly inclusive Texas Scramble format. This format is designed for non-handicap players, or 37 and above. Holywell Golf Club entered our first team last year and it was a complete success with a lot of fun had along the

way. For more information on any activities relating to the Juniors, please contact Sam Scott on 07368 205876

Lewis Johnson, our professional, has brought a huge amount of knowledge and additional facilities to our club. We now have a state of the art swing room with the all the latest technology which improves your game of golf. This room can be hired out to individuals where you can play the simulated version of the Old Course in St Andrews or the PGA course at the Belfry to name just a couple.

It is not only the course that has seen a few tweaks here and there. We have recently given our club house a fresh makeover with new carpet, paint, tables and chairs and we are also near completion for a new private function room that will be available for hire whether this be a meeting venue, a christening, wedding or a funeral. We have capacity in the private room for 40 and up to 80 in the main club house.

The Clubhouse will be having some updated opening hours and a new fresh summer menu, all of which can be enjoyed whilst watching Sky Sports or sitting outside enjoying the sunshine (hopefully it will come) and the beautiful scenery around Brynford. We look forward to welcoming new visitors throughout the coming months. Everyone is welcome – why not become a Social Member or why not join us for a general knowledge quiz each month, every 2nd Wednesday, 19:30 start.

For information and times of all of our activities phone us on 01352 710040 – select option 1 for Russ Gittins (secretary) or option 2 for Lewis Johnson (club professional).

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Art on the Mountain – Rhes-Y-Cae Artists

We are the Rhes-Y-Cae Artists, a locally-based and diverse group of artisans, who use a variety of materials and techniques to create stunning pictures, ceramics and jewellery. Once again, our group will be holding an open studio event and exhibition in Rhes-Y-Cae village hall. Our dates this year are **Saturday 14th September and Sunday 15th September.**



This event is being held as part of the popular annual **Clwydian Creatives Art Trail** where artists from Flintshire and Denbighshire open their studios to the public throughout the month of September.

The Rhes-Y-Cae Artists are:

Danielle McIntyre, who specialises in unique free-motion embroidery artworks.

Shauna Stratton, who uses reclaimed materials to produce beautiful silver jewellery.

Veronica Young, a ceramics maker with an eye for witty and whimsical creations.

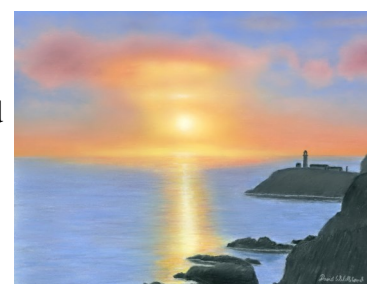
David Wildblood, a painter who uses pastels and watercolours to portray mainly natural subjects.



All the group members are friendly, approachable and more than willing to discuss their work, demonstrate their techniques and give handy hints and tips to beginners.

We guarantee there will be something on display to suit every taste and many of the items will be for sale -

from originals to fine art prints and greeting cards. On the other hand, the artists accept commissions if you are looking for something more specific.



The studio will be open on the 14th and 15th of September from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. Admission is free. There is car parking close to the hall and the hall has disabled access.

Why not pop round to say hello to your local artists and see them at work?



Hardy Plant Society Clwyd Group

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

Meetings are held at the **Halkyn Cricket Club**, Holywell CH8 8BS once a month on a Tuesday. Talks start at 7.30pm. Doors open from 7pm for plant sales, raffle tickets and free refreshments.

Visitors welcome £3 per meeting.

Meetings start up again in September as there are private garden visits over the summer for members, their family and friends.

Information: 01352 781458 (leave a message)
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Forthcoming Events

Tuesday 17th September 'Late Herbaceous Perennials' - Don Whitton is holder of a Plant Heritage National Collection of Euphorbia; author of the Euphorbia HPS booklet; has featured on BBC Gardener's World and in numerous magazines including RHS The Garden. His talk will be about a sumptuous array of perennials which give of their best from midsummer to October.

Tuesday 15th October 'A Year in John Massey's Garden' - Nigel Hopes provides a Head Gardener's behind the scenes tour of John Massey's Private Garden at Ashwood Nurseries in the West Midlands with highlights through the year and plenty of practical advice. No two talks of this title are the same because John's garden changes every year.

Tuesday 12th November 'The World in One Garden' - Barry Grain is Head Gardener at Cholmondeley Castle, Cheshire. This talk focuses on some of the named plants in the Gardens, illustrated with close up photographs. He will tell us about many new and exciting projects, some completed and some planned for the coming years.