

Halkyn Mountain News Newyddion Mynydd Helygain

Issue/Rhifyn 198 – Spring/Gwanwyn 2026

When winter's hush begins to fade,
Soft breezes tease the waking glade,
A hush of green, a burst of bloom,
Spring sweeps away the grey and gloom.

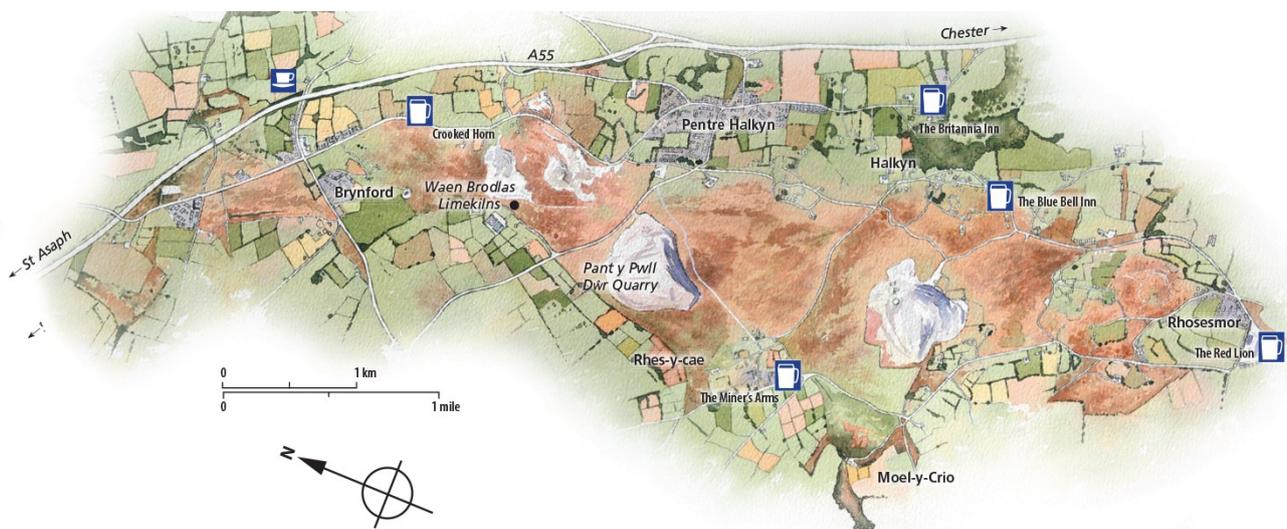
Raindrops dance on thirsty earth,
Awakening seeds to gentle birth;
The sun ascends with golden cheer,
Stretching the days, coaxing them near.

Bluebells chime in shady woods,
Meadows sing in emerald moods,

Birdsong threads the warming air,
A tapestry beyond compare.

With every bud and blossom bright,
The world is painted sheer delight;
Hope rekindles, spirits rise,
As spring adorns the earth and skies.

So let us greet this vibrant tide,
Embrace the light, the life outside,
For spring returns, as seasons do,
A promise old, forever new.



The Summer Edition - Issue 199 - will be distributed in June 2026.

Please submit News and Advertising items before 1st May to the email addresses listed on page 2.

We look forward to receiving your calendar of events going into Summer.

Dear Readers

Welcome to our Spring 2026 issue of Halkyn Mountain News. Another year has begun and winter is (hopefully) moving away, allowing for warmer weather to arrive.

We look forward to the clocks going forward on Sunday, 29th March, bringing more daylight in the evenings and the promise of extra time outdoors. Mother's Day falls on Sunday, 15th March this year, time to spoil that special mum in your life. Children will be eagerly awaiting Easter at the beginning of April, anticipating chocolate eggs and time off school for a couple of weeks.

Whatever Spring means to you, it is a season of renewal, bringing a burst of colour as bluebells, crocuses, daffodils, tulips and more, flourish and bloom.

This quarter brings yet another packed issue in the newsletter for our readers to enjoy. Turn to **page 22** to see the results of our Children's Spring Writing Competition. It was a joy for the team to read the children's stories and poems. We thank them all for their hard work and efforts, and we send congratulations to our winners. Details of our next writing competition is also listed on **page 22**.

We have a new volunteer who has joined our team, but we are always looking for more volunteers who would be willing to give up a few hours every quarter. If you would like to join our friendly group, our contact details are on this page.

We hope you enjoy reading this edition of the newsletter and we look forward to receiving all your news and events for the Summer season.

The Halkyn Mountain News Team

The Editorial Team reserves the right to edit submitted material.

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

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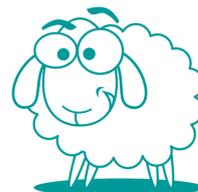
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A copy of this issue will be available at the Halkyn Community Council website: www.halkyn.org.uk



A Few Words from Blodwen the Sheep

One of the few benefits of the dark nights of winter is that they provide you with more time to think. I am a thinker and a dreamer, and I can be whisked away by my thoughts to all sorts of places and situations.

I know that Christmas is an exciting time for humans, and especially the little ones. I had heard of tales of an elderly human, dressed all in red visiting houses in the early hours of Christmas Morning delivering gifts for the children. I was told that he travelled in a strange vehicle, which was pulled by several similarly strange animals called reindeer, which are not native to this part of the world. This set me thinking – why reindeer? We sheep are quite capable of pulling things and are stronger than we may first appear. I had heard that somehow the reindeer and sleigh manage to fly through the air, but I can only assume that there is some magical force that enables this, as from what I understand, reindeer have no wings but look like complicated ponies. I felt sure that we sheep could do the job just as well and would enjoy the opportunity of visiting houses on Christmas Eve. Sheep are naturally curious, if not nosy, so the opportunity to be able to visit houses beyond gates, walls and fences sounded exciting. As I lay in a comfy sheltered spot, I dreamed of this and pondered how could I make this happen?

I may have nodded off for a moment when I became aware of some activity nearby. To my surprise, there was a reindeer and he seemed to be in some discomfort as he was hobbling. There was an elderly farmer wearing a long raincoat standing next to him looking concerned.

I hadn't seen this farmer before, but he was rather a portly gentleman with a very hairy face. He seemed rather concerned about the reindeer who I think had twisted his leg. The farmer was muttering something about this was all he needed on his busiest night of the year.

My inquisitive nature got the better of me so I wandered closer to see if I could help. Sorry, I've broken my New Year's resolution to be truthful all the time, already - I meant that being nosy, I wandered closer to get a better look and to hear what was being said.

The elderly gentleman noticed me and as he turned, I could see he was wearing a bright red suit under his raincoat. I was just thinking that it was an impractical outfit for the mountain, when it dawned on me that I was in presence of the old man who delivered presents. In my surprise, I must admit that I bleated a rude word. I was even more surprised when the gentleman responded that he wouldn't have expected to hear such language from a nice-looking sheep. Unusually, he could understand sheep bleating. I could feel myself blushing. However, he smiled the biggest of smiles and asked would I mind helping him out and taking the reindeer's place for the evening. I didn't need to bleat a response as my excitement was clear from my body language. My wool was standing on end!

I hadn't noticed before, but just behind the hedge was a large sleigh. The red paintwork gleamed in the moonlight. There were several other reindeer already attached to the sleigh, and they nodded in acknowledgement as the gentleman fitted the harness around me. "Just watch the others and do the same" he said, and before I had chance to reply, he returned to the lame reindeer and helped it into the back of the sleigh and placed a blanket over its back.

I hardly had chance to catch my breath or tell anyone where I was going, when I suddenly found that my hooves were no longer on the ground and we were airborne. That was the start of a long and fascinating night. I quickly found that I became accustomed to pulling the sleigh and it was very interesting to visit so many houses. Taking off was easy (I think the reindeers took most of the strain), but landing did play havoc for my poor knees. Strangely, no matter how many houses we called at, there was still an enormous amount of presents in the back of the sleigh. At times the pile seemed to be increasing rather than reducing. We visited places I had never imagined would exist and reached speeds I never thought was possible, but the whole experience was thrilling, and to find that humans had left treats for us such as carrots and

hay was an unexpected bonus.

I must have been exhausted by it all as for the life of me, I cannot remember getting back home. I awoke in the morning, back in the spot where I had first seen the reindeer. I assume that the elderly gentleman would have seen me home safely. Was it real or could I have dreamt it all? I don't think it was a dream, as I had stiff knees for two days afterwards, but a friend did remind me that I had eaten some rather rich food the night before. I don't know what food it was, but I found it is a green container with a handle which was outside a human's home and noticed that the lid was loose. It smelt so good at the time, but I suffered from bloating the following day. However, that may have been from when I opened my mouth in awe as we were transported through the air at speed. I must have swallowed an awful lot of air that night.

It's good to have dreams, but perhaps next time I'll try for those which don't impact my knees. I certainly think it would be best for me to stay firmly on the ground.

May you never get foot rot and always have clover.

Bye for now

Blodwen

Blodwen lives on Moel y Gaer

Thank you to Wendy Sigsworth whose limerick inspired this edition.

Heartfelt
Art & Craft
Fairs

10-3 PM
Warm Welcome
Refreshments
Creative Art
Local Handmade
Unique Craft
Saturday 21st March
Saturday 20th June
Saturday 21st Nov
2026
Homemade Refreshments
FREE Admission

Halkyn Parish Hall & Library CH8 8ES
Supporting Charities, local volunteers, Artists and Crafters
heartfelt.mountainstudio@aol.co.uk
Find us on Facebook @ heartfelt art and craft
The Events Are Licenced By Flintshire County Council

Halkyn Mountain Cinema Update Spring 2026

Over the past few months, we've shown a couple of very different films. **Mr Burton**, back in November, recounted the early years of Richard Burton, and we welcomed in the New Year with a screening of **Mission: Impossible - The Final Reckoning**, Tom Cruise's last outing as Ethan Hunt. It was a great adventure, and all the better for being on the big screen, as Tom is always very keen to point out!



Next up, on 7th March, we have **The Ballad of Wallis Island**. This is the tale of Charles (Tim Key), an eccentric lottery winner who lives alone on a remote island and dreams of getting his favourite musicians, McGwyer Mortimer (Tom Basden and Carey Mulligan) back together. His fantasy quickly turns into reality when the bandmates and former lovers accept his invitation to play a private show at his home on Wallis Island. Old tensions resurface as Charles tries desperately to salvage his dream gig.



It won Best Screenplay and Best Original Music at the 2025 British Independent Film Awards, and was filmed in Pembrokeshire, so we're really looking forward to this one.

Check our Facebook page or look out for the posters popping up for more information.

As usual, refreshments will be available; tickets will go on sale two or three weeks prior to the screening from www.mountaincinema.org.uk or www.facebook.com/halkynmountaincinema

Rob Hughes, Chair
Halkyn Mountain Community Cinema

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.

Forthcoming Events

Tuesday, 24th March

On the Shady Side - Jill Cawthray

Jill has a degree in environmental sciences, and much experience in conservation and education, having worked for the Field Studies Council, Shropshire Wildlife Trust, and through teaching geography and the environment in several schools and colleges. She also has a formal horticulture qualification with the RHS Advanced Certificate. She runs Chicken Street Plants Nursery with husband Andy in Oswestry. Plants will be for sale.

Tuesday, 14th April

What have plants done for Us? - Tracy Foster

Chelsea Gold Medal Winning Garden Designer Tracy Foster has a degree in plant biology, and has worked as a mentor and director for the Society of Garden Designers. She has written a book on gardening in retirement, and runs garden design workshops for the RHS as well as working as a botanical tour guide and running her garden design business in Leeds.

Tuesday, 12th May

Ashwood Specialities – Nigel Hopes

Nigel has been Head Gardener in John Massey's Private Garden at Ashwood Nurseries in the West Midlands since 2018. This talk gives an overview of some of the wonderful plants Ashwood Nurseries is renowned for, including Hellebores, Hepaticas, Cyclamen, Salvia, Hydrangea, Snowdrops and more. Plants will be for sale.

PLANT FAIR, Sunday 17th May, 11am to 2pm at the Holywell Leisure Centre.

HPS Clwyd and invited nurseries plant stalls.

Members of the public are very welcome. Free admission and free parking.

Information: 01352 781458 (leave a message)
email: clwydgroup@hardy-plant.org.uk
www.facebook.com/HPSClwyd
www.hardy-plant.org.uk/clwyd

Christmas Shoebox Appeal – TEAMS4U

Members of the Rhosesmor WI, together with the talented makers of Sue Nuttall's Rhes-y-Cae Craft Group, have once again shown the power of community spirit through their generous contributions to this year's Christmas Shoebox Appeal.

Throughout the autumn, volunteers from both groups dedicated many hours to knitting colourful toys, crafting handmade accessories, and creating a variety of thoughtful items destined for children and families in need. Soft knitted animals, cosy mittens, beautifully sewn purses and soap bags containing toothpaste and a toothbrush - each item was made with care and the hope of bringing joy during the festive season.



TEAMS4U is a nationwide charity based in Wrexham working with partners like the Red Cross to help find children that are most in need. The shoeboxes are given to vulnerable children or families through schools, nurseries, hospitals and orphanages. This year the shoeboxes headed off to the Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Bosnia and Romania.

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to the Rhosesmor WI and the Rhes-y-Cae Craft Group for their continued kindness, creativity, and commitment to helping others. Their efforts highlight the warmth and generosity that make local groups such an important part of life here "on the mountain".

Kath Royles



Youth Concert St Paul's Church, Rhosesmor Saturday, 28th March 2026 - 7pm

At the time of writing, we are gathering names of young musicians who will be performing this year. Some have entertained us at the Youth Concert previously, but we also have newcomers. I don't know how many performers we'll have by the time you read this but if you are interested (or know anyone who is), contact me and we'll try to fit you in.

The concert will be performed by local young people and will cover many genres that will be enjoyed by all ages. Come along to the concert I know you won't be disappointed. There will be light refreshments and a raffle. Profits from the donations during the evening will be divided between local charities.

Wendy Sigsworth 07570 807876



Burns Night Celebrations at Billy Jeans

Just returned from a brilliant evening at Billy Jeans Café celebrating Robbie Burn's life and poetry. The Cock-a-leekie soup was the best I've tasted. The ceremonial butchering of the haggis was something I hadn't experienced before and was good fun. The generous portion of the main meal of haggis, neeps and tatties which followed certainly didn't disappoint - very tasty. We then toasted the famous poet with a dram of good whisky. Live folk music from Hazel on guitar and vocals supported by James on the keyboard was a great contrast to Mali who sang songs made famous by Scottish performers. Dancing and laughter ended the very enjoyable and friendly evening.

Good Food, Good Company, Good Night and Good Value

Rob and Brioni's vision to create a community hub at Billy Jean's has certainly materialised judging by our experience of this evening. Thanks to Rob, Brioni, Hazel, James, Mali, Izzy, Talitha, Fiona on the bar and everyone else who contributed to the event.

Look out for Dydd Gwyl Dewi Sant - Billy Jeans are arranging to celebrate our patron saint

Ysgol Rhos Helyg News Report Spring 2026

Ysgol Rhos Helyg Find us on Facebook. **Also please check out our website:**
ysgolrhoshelyg.com

We have once again been very busy at Rhos Helyg. We would like to share with you a flavour of the things that have happened since our last article. It is hard to believe that we are now in Spring.

Our Free Community Café is generally held on the third Friday of each month between 10am and 11.30am during term time and is well attended. Everyone is very welcome to attend for a cuppa and a cake and a chat!

Community Café

The Local Community Policing Team held a Bingo event recently at a Community Café event.



Community Café Dates

13th February
20th March

Christmas

Although it now seems a long time ago, here are some festive highlights.

Father Christmas came to visit the children and met lots of very excited children.



The PTA once again organised a lovely Fair that brought the school community together.

Everyone came to enjoy refreshments and a chat.



Christmas Dinner is always a firm favourite with pupils and staff.

Snow

The New Year brought snow and at school it means fun. It gives the children the opportunity to do old fashioned things like making snowmen and igloos, some things never change!



Well wrapped up as they make a giant snowball.



Nursery pupils made a pretty impressive igloo.

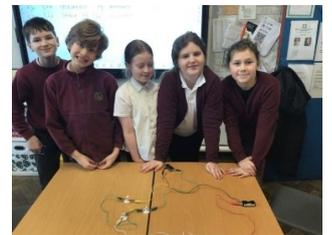
Cello

Pupils in Year 3 have played in a special concert with the BBC Orchestra at Aston Hall in Wrexham.



Topic Work

Pupils in Year 5 and 6 have been investigating the brightness of bulbs in circuits.



Pupils in the Foundation Phase have been doing some fabulous written work.

Nursery pupils have been learning about The Three Little Pigs and have done some amazing craft work.



Pupils have been doing some creative writing on their Chromebooks.

Enjoying some hot chocolate in The Roundhouse, pupils are taking a break after some Outdoor Learning.



Foundation Pupils have received First Aid training by Betsi Cadwaladr as part of their work on Florence Nightingale.

Library Van

The children always look forward to their visit to the Library Van. Choosing a book is so much fun.



The most memorable days usually end with the dirtiest clothes.

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Cofrestrwch eich lle heddiw
Register your place today.

Cylch Meithrin Plws Treffynnon

Dechrau deg
Cylch
Clwb Cinio
Meithrin Plws



Rydym yn agored/ We are open
Dydd Llun - Dydd Gwener
Monday - Friday
8.45yb/am - 2.45yh/pm
2 oed/year olds- 4 oed/year olds

Pam na allwch chi ddod hebio neu fyned o'r ffôn atom am ragor o wybodaeth. Gweler beth mae ein llefydd cyfeillgar yn ei gynnig.

Why not pop in or phone us for more information. See what our friendly setting has to offer.

Ebost:

pwylgormudiadtreffynnon@gmail.com

Ffon: 07484905714



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), a committee room for meetings, etc. The hall now has facilities for presentations and promotions with a wide screen TV available in the hall and committee room. For bookings and enquiries phone Colin Roberts 07934 669794 Mon to Fri (between 9am and 5pm).

Weekly Diary

- Monday** **Over 50s club** - meet at the hall first Monday in the month: also monthly outings - contact Ron 01352 715723
Snooker Club - 7pm (New members welcome - contact Andy Wood 01352 780159)
The Snooker Table is also available for hire - contact Colin Roberts 07934 669794
Post Office - 4pm-4.30pm
- Tuesday** **Zumba**
- Wednesday** **Charity Coffee Morning** - 10.30am-12pm - 1st Wednesday in the month
Ewe Can Craft - alternate Wednesday evenings 7pm-9pm - contact Rosie 07563 372440
- Thursday** **Halkyn WI** - 2pm-4pm
Clerical Error Border Morris Dancers - 8pm-10pm - contact Colin 07934 669794
- Friday** **Library** - 1.30pm-7pm
- Saturday** **Halkyn Mountain Quilters** - contact Elaine 07871 586942
Sound Therapy with Rachel - contact her on 07951 740112 for further information of dates & times

Heartfelt Craft Fairs - See local advertising

The hall management committee are exploring the possibility of hosting an event supported by the Arts Council of Wales who part fund community events. This would likely be a play / pantomime type of production but we are reaching out to you as the local community to see if this is the sort of thing you would like to have on offer at the hall. They have been held in years gone by with relative success.

More information regarding the Arts Council can be found on their website - <https://arts.wales/about-us/contact-us>.

if you have any ideas or preference for the sort of production you would like such as family orientated, comedy etc or anything else you would like to see in the hall, we would be pleased to hear from you. You can email HalkynParishHallCommittee@gmail.com if you would like to share your ideas.

Councillor Update from **FRAN**

Over the past few months, my work as County Councillor for Brynford and Halkyn has focused on a mix of local issues, working with local groups, and wider scrutiny responsibilities.



Tarmac Quarry – Road Closure at Moel-y-Crio/Coed-y-Felin

A significant ongoing local concern is the continued closure of the road from Moel y Crio down to Coed y Felin, which has now been shut for almost two years. I fully recognise the frustration this has caused for residents who rely on this route.

Recently, Andrew Parkhurst (Councillor for Cilcain, Nanerch, Hendre and Rhydymwyn) and I met directly with Tarmac to seek clarity on what has caused the delay and what happens next. Tarmac explained that the landslide was caused by water ingress into a fault within the rock face, leading to instability and making it unsafe to reopen the road while investigations were carried out.

Tarmac have confirmed that further work is due to begin in January. This will involve monitoring how surface water feeds into the fault, designing a drainage solution to divert water further down the hill into the limestone, and then stabilising the fault using blocky limestone. Their current estimate is that the road could reopen towards the back end of the summer, subject to the investigations and engineering work progressing as expected.

Planning Applications: Tiger Tim and Pant Quarry

There is a live planning application for the proposed Tiger Tim expansion, which has generated significant local interest. A community group has been formed and a door-knock carried out to raise awareness and gather residents' views.

In response, Simon and I have referred the application to the Planning Committee, meaning it will be decided by elected members rather than officers. I do not sit on the Committee, but I will represent residents' views.

There is also a live planning application for Pant y Pwll Dŵr Quarry, Brynford, seeking to extend its operational life by 40 years. The proposal does not increase output, working hours, staffing, or change the nature of operations, and would extend north of the existing site. Both applications remain live, and residents are encouraged to comment.

Bin, Recycling and Road Safety Issues

I have raised ongoing concerns about waste and recycling, particularly missed collections in our rural ward with many properties on unadopted roads. I have also raised the issue of bins and recycling bags not being returned to where they were collected from, which residents frequently report. The waste team have committed to increasing training so that residents receive a more consistent and reliable service.

At the request of residents, I have also asked for the process to be started to introduce yellow lines:

- Outside the shop in Pentre Halkyn
- The junction to Hafod y Bryn in Brynford

These concerns relate to road safety, particularly where parked vehicles restrict visibility. Residents have highlighted that this is especially problematic and potentially dangerous during school and bus pick-up and drop-off times.

Supporting Residents and Scrutiny Work

Alongside visible local issues, I also work with residents on confidential casework, including social care, housing, transport, planning, environmental concerns and education.

A key part of my role is scrutiny and holding the Council to account. Following the Estyn inspection at Flint High School, I challenged Cabinet on whether the Council's Education & Youth Self-Evaluation Report still stood up to scrutiny, given that Estyn inspections look back over several years rather than at a single moment in time.

I continue to be a strong voice for fairer funding for schools. School budgets have been cut back to the bare bones, leaving little or no flexibility to maintain high-quality education. Welsh Government passported funding for the teachers' pay award back to the Council, but Cabinet chose to place this into reserves rather than returning it to school budgets. I challenged this through scrutiny and supported a Notice of Motion at full Council calling for the funding to be put back into schools.

I am a member of the administration group, but I will not support Cabinet decisions simply because they come from my own party. If I believe a decision is wrong — particularly where it affects children and education — I will challenge it.

I also value my role on the Social & Health Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee, where recent work has focused on how the Council responds to rising demand for adult social care. This has included scrutiny of budget pressures, mitigation actions, and service models that promote supported living. There have been interesting discussions about how we can increase our in-house fostering, and how we bring children back into local care where appropriate. I want to acknowledge the officers and frontline teams who continue to deliver these services under significant pressure.

If you have any questions, concerns, or views you would like to share, please get in touch at:
fran.lister@flintshire.gov.uk

Holywell Golf Club

New Year, New Challenges and New Ideas

The festive season has come and gone, and we have seen some wintery weather, with the white stuff falling and causing chaos in parts, along with high winds and torrential rain, all of which does not help when wanting to play golf. Despite all of this, our team of greenkeepers have done their best to keep the course open when they can, and try and drain as much moisture away. Thank you to all of them.

Isn't it nice to see the days slowly getting longer with daylight hours. I work on the basis that two minutes every day is gained, so we will soon be able to play golf late afternoon/early evening, but I can't wait until we can move the clocks forward and for the new golfing season to officially start.

This year we introduce Carl Henson as our Club Captain, Joanne Jones as Lady Captain and Thomas Griffiths as our Junior Captain. Their Captaincy year starts at the end of March, the dreaded Captain's drive off being their first official duty on Sunday, 29th March. Basically, each Captain has to take one shot off the first tee, usually in front of many members. It's great to see so many members supporting the Captains, but having done this myself, it is the most nervous I have ever been hitting a golf shot. Good luck to each one of them and I am sure I will have more information for you in the next newsletter.

If you are interested in becoming a member of Holywell Golf Club, please contact the secretary, or our Professional, Lewis Johnson, for more information. 01352 710040.



SUBSCRIPTIONS 2026/7

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY	PRICE
18-21 Years	£200.00
22-25 Years	£300.00
26-29 Years	£420.00
Full Gent	£695.00
Full Gent - 25 Years	£630.00
Full Gent - 50 Years	£595.00
Full Lady	£555.00
Full Lady - 25 Years	£505.00
Junior Primary School	£55.00
Junior High School	£105.00
Lifestyle - No Handicap, 25 years	£440.00
2nd Club	£440.00

	FLINTSHIRE UNION LEVY	WALES GOLF LEVY	SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP
ADULT	£1.50	£17.25	£35.00
JUNIOR	£0.75	£5.25	

A DIRECT DEBIT SCHEME IS AVAILABLE - £30 ADMIN CHARGE, PLEASE CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION

secretary@holywellgc.co.uk
01352 710040
www.holywellgc.co.uk

We are hoping to have a lot more social events this year, and I want to make sure that the local communities are fully aware that the clubhouse is open to everyone. You don't have to be a member to come along.

Saturday, 24th January saw us take up a new partnership with The Quality Catering Co, the famous chippy van that visits many local pubs and events in the area. They were on site between 4pm – 8pm where you could order and take a meal home or you could eat it within the clubhouse with a drink. It was great to see so many people use this facility and we are now committing to do this every other Saturday. Why not come along and watch the Welsh Rugby games in the clubhouse. All Wales' games will be shown.

From Tuesday, 3rd March between 5pm – 8pm, Bonni's Pizza will be at the club. Again, you can order and takeaway or you can enjoy your pizza with a couple of drinks. Look out for more dates on Facebook as we are hoping to have Just Steak as well.

We are also holding a Glass workshop. Join glass artist Fleur from Glass by Fleur for a relaxed and creative fused glass workshop at Holywell Golf Club on Sunday, 8th March between 11am – 1pm. Fleur grew up locally and is really looking forward to returning to Holywell to share this lovely creative session. During the workshop, you'll design and assemble, one hanging glass heart suncatcher (circa 9 cm) and up to two small glass card pieces, perfect to keep or gift. This workshop is suitable for complete beginners — no previous experience needed.

Fused glass is created by layering pieces of coloured glass, which are then melted together in a kiln at high temperatures. During the session, you'll design and assemble your pieces. Fleur will then take them away to be fired and professionally finished before being returned to you. What's included? - all materials provided; step-by-step guidance throughout; live demonstration; no glass cutting involved. Your finished work will be returned at a later date once firing is complete. Look out on Facebook for more details or contact secretary@holywellgc.co.uk for more information.

Evening events are also being planned; Boozy Bingo and An Evening of Musicals with Owen Barton Davies will soon be advertised. Holywell Golf Club 1906 is our Facebook page so please keep an eye out.

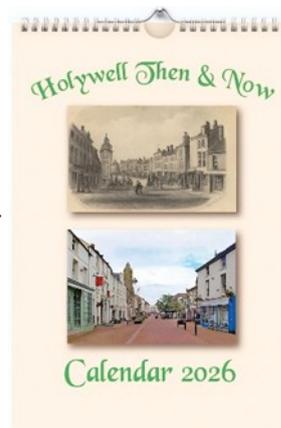
If you need a room for a private function, a meeting or for a workshop, please contact us for more information.



HOLYWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

We hope your year has begun well, and continues to be a good one. We have many exciting plans for the year ahead, and the group continues to grow and prosper.

We may finally be seeing the back of January, but there are still 11 months of the year left to enjoy our 2026 calendars, the A4 spiral-bound Holywell Then & Now, and A4 all-year calendars in two designs; Transport in Holywell and Holywell's Public Houses. Once again, we have been amazed at the popularity of both the Christmas cards and the calendars – with cards and calendars being sent as far off as Australia! The calendars are available to buy from our stall at Nexus Creative Spaces, the pop-up shop in Holywell town centre (at the rear of the Post Office), along with our greetings cards and books on local history. This year we have decided to add to our greetings card selection with two new cards – an Easter card and a Sympathy card. Our Easter card contains a bespoke verse evoking memories of the Easter Fair that came to Holywell every year, along with an illustration of a typical fairground scene from those bygone years – we can all remember the thrill of riding on those swing boats with the wind in our hair – such carefree days! Our sympathy card shows a picture of Holywell High Street from the late 1950s with a poignant verse for those whom we have lost from these familiar streets. These two new greetings cards will be available to buy in the next few weeks. All of our merchandise, and details of where to purchase, can be found on our website <https://holywellreminiscing.wixsite.com/historical-society>.



We are also in the process of compiling a book of memories collected from the members of the Holywell Reminiscing Group. The motto of our group is **Every Memory Matters**, and we thought this an apt and fitting title for this collection of stories. This book should be available to buy at the end of March – the details of the release date will be on our Facebook page. Our group continues to meet every Tuesday morning at Holywell Leisure Centre (10am-12pm). We're always happy to welcome new members, if you'd like to come along and share your memories of Holywell with us. We also have a general knowledge quiz on a Thursday afternoon

(1pm-3pm) - £2 per session which includes refreshments. For those who are not available to come to the meetings, we have our Facebook group, now with over 1,600 members. The page is regularly updated with members' stories and photographs, and our resident experts are always available to answer questions relating to the history of Holywell <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2256532077884382>.

A Date for Your Diary - Following the success of our first ever Holywell History Fair, we have decided to hold the event again this year. The Fair will be held on **Sunday, 12th April 2026** at Holywell Leisure Centre, 9:30am-3:30pm. As before, entry is free of charge and there is also free parking at the Leisure Centre. The café will be open for refreshments and there will be a raffle. If you would like to have a stall at the event, or you are able to donate a raffle prize, please contact us holywellhistoricalsociety@gmail.com.

We are continuing in our quest to forge links with local schools, to bring awareness of our rich heritage to the younger generation. This month we have been approached by Ysgol Bro Carmel who were looking for a contribution to their World War II project this term. Several of our members have first-hand experience of being a child during wartime, and we are looking forward to visiting the school to share our stories with the children, along with an informal presentation that will include our collection of World War II memorabilia.

A few weeks ago, we were delighted to be presented with a huge box of historical volumes, books on both social history of Flintshire and family history journals. This donation was made anonymously, and we'd love to know the name of our benefactor, so that we might thank them for their generous gift. The contents of this box will be duly indexed and added to our archive page on our website. Our archives are available to view on appointment. Please contact us for more information. holywellhistoricalsociety@gmail.com.



We're putting together the finishing touches for the Family History Hub website, which should be live by the end of next month. Our proposed Family History Group should also be up and running in the next few weeks. We are planning on an evening session once a month at Holywell Library. A start date is yet to be confirmed, but details will be posted on our Facebook page. In the meantime, we are happy to help with any family history queries you may have. Our resident genealogist, Donna Coulson, has over 30 years' experience in family history research and is currently offering a free one-hour, one-to-one consultation dcfamilyhistoryhub@gmail.com.



Thanks to everyone who supported us by buying our merchandise in 2025. We look forward to seeing you at our History Fair in April.

HEARTFELT ART & CRAFT FAIRS - 2025 Review and Update

2025 saw us take the fundraising art and craft fairs 'on tour' with fairs held in locations other than at our normal venue, Halkyn Parish Hall. In addition to two fairs held in Halkyn, we held our first outdoor event in Flint supporting the RNLI, and held a fair in Pwllglas Village Hall, Denbighshire, supporting a children's charity 'Rally round Rupert', and raising awareness and funds in support of clinical research for Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA).

Holding the craft fairs in different venues was a challenge, but something we had often thought about doing. We were delighted the events were both well attended and well received by the local communities. We look forward to hosting 'on tour' fairs again in the future.

As a result of the four craft fairs held last year, a total of £4,000 was raised for charity, which in addition to the three mentioned above, also included Alzheimer's Society and Walk the Walk breast cancer charity.

Since commencement of the art and craft fairs in April 2014, a total of £40,282 has been raised, and donated to 29 different charities. Thanks to a committed team effort and with the help of local volunteer fundraisers and supporters, the fairs remain a success.

The focus remains on raising money for charities, supporting local artisans and enhancing community engagement. Each event will raise vital funds for the different causes.

This year, we will be holding three events in Halkyn Parish Hall & Library. Our first event will be held on **Saturday, 21st March** when we will be fundraising for Breakthrough T1D, a charity supporting research and care for people living with Type 1 Diabetes.

On Saturday, 20th June we will be fundraising for Nightingale Hospice, Wrexham, supporting local volunteers from the Mold and Holywell area. This wonderful charity provides compassionate care and support for patients and families.

On Saturday, 21st November we will be fundraising for Flint RNLI, supporting local volunteers and those helping to save lives at sea, through the volunteer rescue services.

All the charities rely on public donations, in order to continue to provide such a wonderful service.

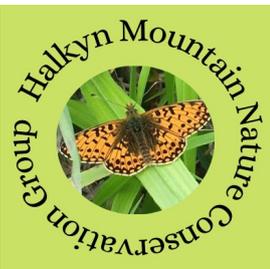
By attending our fairs, shopping with talented stallholders or donating on the day, you will be helping us to support these amazing charities. Please help to raise awareness of the fairs by spreading the news with your friends and family. Together, we can support life changing causes and small businesses. We can all make a difference.

My husband John and I remain very grateful for the community support and engagement. Huge thanks to everyone who attends the fairs, help us behind the scenes, and help to raise awareness by displaying our event posters and fliers. Without such help and continued support the 'not for profit' fundraising fairs would not remain a community success.

For more information please contact Susan at heartfelt.mountainstudio@aol.co.uk.

Thank you. Diolch

Susan Parry-Harwood



Some Moths of Halkyn Mountain

We love butterflies but are not so keen on moths perhaps! In the past, moths had a bad reputation because their caterpillars would eat household linen and clothes. This is a lesser problem today since man-made fibres have become popular. However, moth species are in decline, just as much as other wildlife, and they need help.



Scarlet Tiger

Moths and butterflies are actually one and the same; butterflies are day-flying (diurnal) but so are many moths, however, many more moths are night-flying (nocturnal). There are roughly 2,500 moth species found in the British Isles, with about 900 being larger species and the rest micro-moths; by comparison there are only 59 species of butterflies. All are members of the insect group 'Lepidoptera' and are essential in the pollination of flowers. Butterflies have short club-tipped antennae whereas moths usually have long antennae which are sometimes feathery. Some diurnal moths could be mistaken for butterflies due to their colourful wings. In nature, red is often used to scare off predators. The Scarlet Tiger flashes its red hindwings to do this. The Six-spot Burnet and Cinnabar Moths have red and black forewings to send their messages.

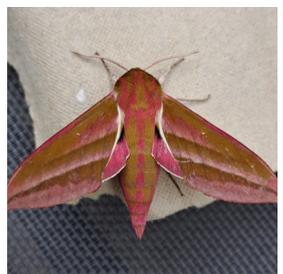


Six-spot Burnet



Cinnabar Moth

Hawk-moths are very large strikingly patterned moths. The Elephant Hawk-moth is one of these and is coloured olive-green and bright pink. Its name is derived from its caterpillar (larva) which looks like an elephant's trunk and has huge scary 'eyes'. A fast-flying newcomer to Britain is the diurnal Humming-bird Hawk-moth; this can be seen hovering in front of flowers acting like a Hummingbird as it drinks nectar, using its very long feeding tube (proboscis). This moth has become a resident species in Britain due to climate change.



Elephant Hawk-moth



Humming-bird Hawk-moth

Nocturnal moths are astonishing, varied in shape and colour, but only a small selection is included here. The Buff-tip, is a master of mimicry, it wraps its wings around its body in order to resemble a snapped off length of birch twig. The Dusky Thorn is another mimic, this time resembling a dead leaf. The Spectacle is a dark brown moth with a 'Mohican' crest on its head, view it head-on and it appears to be wearing a pair of spectacles. The Pale Tussock is pretty grey moth; it rests, cat-like, with furry forelimbs outstretched.



Elephant Hawk-moth larva



Buff-tip

The moths illustrated in this article are not uncommon and have been seen in Halkyn and Pentre Halkyn. To see some of these you may like to consider making a simple non-lethal moth trap. A cool light source (waterproof LED) and a wide funnel into a large tub containing torn up egg boxes, is all you need. Set it in a sheltered position at dusk and then check in the morning. The moths can be put into tubes or jars for identification, photographed and then set free into safe places. 'Google Lens' is a good starting point for identification and also www.butterfly-conservation.org/moths.



Dusky Thorn



Spectacle

Photos: Colin Roberts & Mavis Midgley. NB. Sizes of moths are not to scale.

See <http://www.facebook/Halkynmountainconserv> for details of guided wildflower walks.

Mavis Midgley
Halkyn Mountain Nature Conservation Group



Pale Tussock

Farmer's Diary

At the start of December we thought about the shorter days, and longer nights that will be with us for next the two months, with Christmas to look forward to for some. On the farm, most of the cattle were indoors, just the suckler cows and their calves are out on some drier ground, as were some lighter yearling cattle that we bought in November. The sheep were needing extra food, since the grass had stopped growing for the winter, and they had been very slow to recover condition after the dry summer. The fifty or so two year old cattle we have each year were already housed, but as they mostly weigh 600 kilos each, their appetite is enormous. So we had to make a judgement between keeping them, and feeding them from a rapidly diminishing silage store, or selling them to conserve the silage for the younger, less hungry cattle. We started selling some of the finished beef cattle in November and then, having had a clear TB test in December, we were allowed to sell cattle, known as stores, to finishing farms. Now at the end of January, I think there are only a dozen left, I say only think, because, yet again, I'm away, and Hayden may have sold more in my absence.

The ewes were scanned just before Christmas, results showing a disappointing average of 1.5 lambs per ewe as opposed to the 1.75 lambs we hoped for. Probably not unexpected, due to the challenges of a prolonged dry summer, and the difficulty they had to improve their condition. However, what is done is done, and we have to look after what we have got. Most of the twin bearing ewes were housed by 20th January, but have been getting concentrated food since 2nd January. They start lambing on 24th February, long nights then become long days and long nights. Anyone who fancies a day or night in the lambing shed please get in touch.

Now to get to my travels, this time to Madeira, an island we have visited on numerous occasions to visit my sister who lives there. Madeira is a volcanic island in the Atlantic about 400 miles from the African coast. Roughly the same size as Anglesey and rising to 5,426 feet to its highest point - Pico Grande, an extinct volcano, which is only seven miles from the capital city of Funchal at sea level. So that gives you some idea of how steep it is. Vines and salad crops are grown on small terraces built into the mountainside taking advantage of the fertile volcanic soil and the Levada irrigation system. These are man-made watercourses following

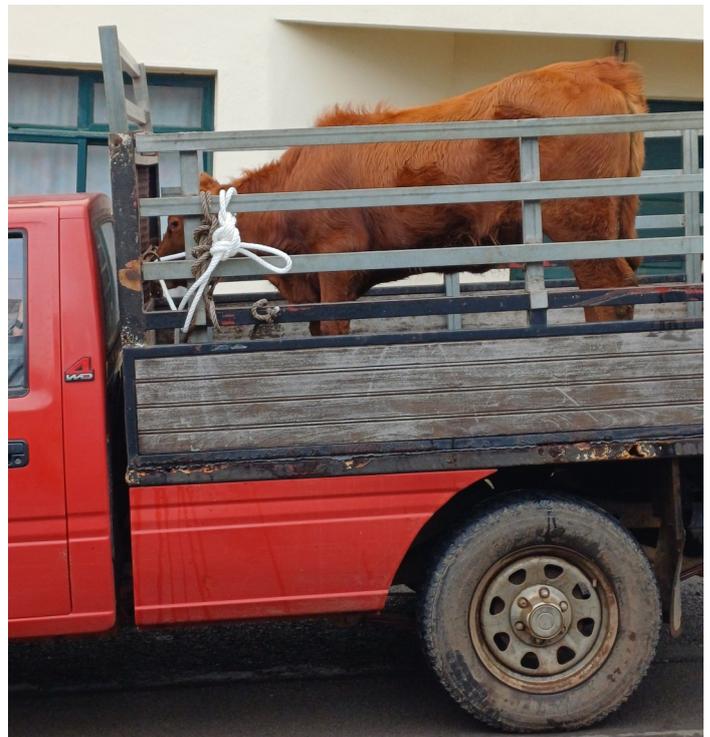


contours around the hillside to collect water for irrigation. Bananas, of which 20,000 tonnes are exported annually, and fruit trees seem to be grown in any sheltered areas of the island. There are not many cattle on the island, a few tethered cows with calves at foot up on the Sierra Plateau, and an odd cow in people's gardens used as 'house cows'. A few goats graze around the villages. Most of the milk used on the island is imported from the Azores where they have large robotic milking systems for their cows. There are several large pig houses. A few flocks of sheep are grazed in small areas and tended by shepherds, probably no more than a few hundred sheep on the whole island.

This leads me on to a new Trade Deal, which Europe has made with four South American countries, into which the UK government wants to join. Is there any sense in importing beef from 5,000 miles away, of unknown rearing and feeding standards, no medical records and cutting down rain forests to make room to breed them and rear them, to say nothing of the carbon footprint? In return, UK farmers are expected to plant 10% of our land with trees. I find it interesting to stand on Moel-y-Gaer and see how much of our land is already covered in trees.

So much for sustainability.

John Sigsworth



This is an animal being transported in Madeira. UK farmers would be prosecuted if they transported animals like this.

Councillor's Update - Spring 2026

Local Roads

Last spring, I took the Cabinet Member, who is responsible for highways, on a drive around the area to show him the worst of the roads in the ward. You may remember that I mentioned, in my last update, that I was continuing to press for repairs to the road between the Britannia Inn and Pentre Road, as well as the road between Halkyn and Windmill. I am pleased to announce that I have been successful in obtaining funding to completely resurface these roads in the coming financial year. As soon as I have a date I will let you know, but its likely to be mid to late summer. There are 67 Councillors in Flintshire and we are all fighting for funds from the same small pot of money, so I am pleased to have got this funding. I will still continue to fight for other roads in the ward to be repaired as soon as more funds are available.

A55

There were many accidents on the A55 over the tourist season, and one of the main issues, as pointed out by Halkyn Community Council, was the slip road at Junction 32A by Billy Jeans café. This slip road is one of the shortest on the highway, and joins at a very poor angle, resulting in people either braking to avoid collisions when joining, or accelerating rapidly when joining to squeeze into a space. In my opinion, the slip road should run parallel to the A55 for a distance of at least 50 metres to allow joining traffic to see traffic on the A55, and to allow traffic on the A55 to see motorists joining from the slip road.

I recently met with both Hannah Blythin MS and Carolyn Thomas MS to discuss the issues experienced around junction 32 this summer. Hannah then raised the issue at First Ministers Questions in The Senedd and Carolyn has followed up with the Minister for Transport, who has announced a traffic review that will be presented in the late spring or early summer. I look forward to hearing the results from the review, and will share them with you when I receive them.

Dog Walking on the Mountain

I was recently contacted by the Chair of the local Graziers' Association, regarding attacks on livestock on the common. I would like to remind everybody of the Halkyn Common Code, which states that dogs MUST be kept under close control at all times and on a lead during lambing season. The ewes are currently pregnant and causing them distress or causing them to run away from a chasing dog can lead them to miscarry their lambs. In a recent update to the laws surrounding dog attacks on livestock, penalties for livestock worrying include unlimited fines, potential imprisonment and expanded police powers to seize dogs. The law covers attacking, chasing, or being off-lead near livestock. I would ask all residents to ensure they comply with the law and to mention this to others who regularly use the mountain. I have written to Grosvenor Estates and requested that they erect signage at the main parking areas. Can I also remind all dog walkers that it is their responsibility to pick up their dog's mess.

Tiger Tim Planning Application

As many of you will be aware, Tiger Tim in Rhosesmor has recently put in a planning application to significantly alter the current site. Both myself and Councillor Lister have been contacted by many local residents, who are concerned about the development. Concerns include the height of the new building, which will effectively become three storeys high, will be overbearing and out of character for the area. The re-orientation of the proposed office building would result in office workers being able to look directly into nearby residents bedrooms. There is also concern that the new storage facilities will result in large quantities of firelighters being stored in close proximity to housing and, given the restricted access down Wern Road, there is concern that the fire service would have difficulty in attending any incidents. The current office building shields the view from residents' homes from many of the large kerosene storage tanks. The new proposed layout would remove this shielding. Although I support Tiger Tim in providing jobs for local residents, I feel that the proposed plans could be altered to be more sympathetic to local residents. As your Councillor, I do not have the power to veto plans, so I have taken the strongest action available to me, by referring the application to the Planning Committee of elected members. This means that the decision will not be taken by one planning officer alone, but will be decided by a panel of Councillors.

Council Business

Its been a busy few months, with meetings at Ty Dewi Sant of the Constitution and Democratic Committee. I've been involved with the legal team and other committee members in reviewing the county's constitution that all Councillors must follow. This process is ongoing and will continue throughout the year.

If you wish to contact me regarding any local concerns, as always, I'm here for you. Please email me at simon.jones@flintshire.gov.uk.

Cllr Simon Jones

Flintshire County Council, Brynford and Halkyn Ward

Halkyn and District Bowling Club

Happy New Year!

We celebrated the club members' achievements at our annual presentation evening in November. Several members picked up trophies for their achievements. Mick Carpenter was awarded with the Merit trophies for both Veterans A and Midweek teams, Eirlys Edwards was presented with the Veterans B Merit and the club individual knockout trophies, Ian Bethel and Wayne Jones won the club doubles knockout trophy. We would like to thank Tony and team at the Crown Inn, Lixwm for his continued support of the club and hosting an enjoyable evening.



To keep our eye in over the winter months, several club members have been meeting up at the Jade Jones Leisure Centre in Flint every Sunday to use their indoor bowling facility. This has been most enjoyable with several members trying the flat green version of bowling for the first time.

The date for our green opening for the 2026 season is Sunday, 29th March at 1pm. Everyone is welcome to come and join us.

We will follow the opening with a meet and greet, where you can meet club members, have a chat, find out about our game, and even try your hand. We have bowls you can use, so come and have a go.



If you would like more information about becoming a member or just having a game to see if you enjoy it, you can email us at halkynbowls@gmail.com or call either Pat (01352 781057) or Andy (07917 714379). The club also has a Facebook page and this can be found at www.facebook.com/HalkynBowls.

Happy bowling!

Halkyn Cricket Club

The senior mens' season starts on Saturday, 18th April with the 1st XI playing Gresford at home. The 2nd XI begin their season on Sunday, 19th April at Abergele.

A 12-week indoor nets programme has now commenced at Holywell Leisure Centre, on Sundays between 2pm and 4pm. All current and new players are welcome to join us, as we continue to strengthen the squad for the 2026 season. For further information please contact our 1st XI Captain, Ben Roberts on 07794 459936.

Our juniors have also begun their indoor winter nets, and they also train at Holywell Leisure Centre on Sundays between 12pm and 1pm. These sessions will run until the end of March, and are open to all abilities, and any boys or girls between 5 and 15 are more than welcome to come along and give it a go. We have fully qualified ECB coaches present. This season we are looking to expand our junior section and would like to be able to run Allstars/Dynamos as well as teams in the U9, U11, U13 and U15 age groups. We have been playing in the junior indoor league, which the children have been enjoying. For any further information on the juniors please call Jane on 07732 325033.

SPONSORS NEEDED – We are looking for companies and businesses, who may be interested in taking advantage of one of our sponsorship offers. All sponsors will feature on our social media platforms throughout the season. If you are interested and would like to know more, please contact Keith on 01352 781523.

A reminder that the clubhouse is available to hire at a competitive rate and we offer the clubhouse free of charge to local schools or for charity functions. We also offer a reduced hire charge for children's parties.

For further information on any of the above please contact Keith or Jane on 01352 781523 or 07732 325033.

Jane



Rhosesmor Events

The pre-Christmas programme in Rhosesmor began with an introduction to the winter tales of Mellt the Storyteller on 14th November. Mysterious and intriguing, her stories coaxed us into the depths of winter and its icy hold.



This was followed promptly by the buzz and celebration of the Rhosesmor Christmas Fair on 29th November. We owe special thanks to Ann Roberts and Iain Costall once again for their commitment to the village and the success of the fair. Ann has maintained such a caring relationship with the stallholders past and present for a number of years and has been the backbone of the success of this growing and widely popular event. Such are the waiting lists for a stall in Rhosesmor Christmas Fair, the fair was extended to the church. This time Santa's grotto was moved to the church vestry, surrounded by a merry crowd at the various stalls

and Women's Institute café offering their delicious cakes.

Meanwhile the village hall was packed with beautiful stalls and refreshments with Mike Kennedy's award-winning burgers and sausages.



And so, to Christmas welcomed in by Côr Cilcain on 5th December. The scene was set by their varied presentation of seasonal songs. Côr Cilcain once again brought their special sound to the excellent acoustics in St Paul's Church. We're very grateful for their support.



Not to forget our own school Ysgol Rhos Helyg. The children had been busy designing Christmas cards depicting life, sheep farming on The Mountain. We sold all the cards and profits were given as a donation to the school.

This year a record number of gifts were sent far and wide to children and families needing support at Christmas. Thank you so much to everyone who made up a shoebox for Teams4u, this year's Charity. These really do make such a difference and especially the items that go in them, which are made with so much love. A special thanks to Rhosesmor WI and members of Rhes-Y-Cae craft group, Outpost volunteers and members of



the village who knitted, crocheted and donated lovely teddies, blankets, hats and more that really made Christmas for so many children.

Our spring programme begins with the Halkyn Mountain Youth Concert. Following last year's excellent turn out of home bred talent, we look forward again to an outstanding exhibition of the skills of our young people. Thank you to Wendy Sigsworth for her leadership and support in this and to Mick Manning for his technical skills. The concert is on the evening of Saturday, 28th March and promises to be an uplifting evening of promise.

We're in the process now of developing our programme for the rest of this year. You are most welcome at our meetings or just send your ideas to lfeanhead@hotmail.co.uk or text 07947 046695. Look out for news on the Rhosesmor Village Facebook page or pop into The Outpost in St Paul's Church, open 8 till 8 every day. Why not stop and have a cuppa?

Rhosemor Village Community Group

RHOESMOR NEEDS YOU



We are a small group of local volunteers who love our village and its community. Here are a few of the things we've done.

Maintained the pond and picnic area by the park
Supplied seats by the Limekiln and Church
Bought the childrens Play Parachute. Rhosemor Tots
Concerts and events in Church. Christmas Fairs.
Church Community Garden. Litter Picking
The Outpost Community Shop. Treasure Hunts

We are always on the look out for new volunteers so if you would like to get involved in any way please get in touch via the Rhosemor Village Facebook page, or leave your details at the Outpost shop

Rhosemor Village Hall Diary

Weekly

- Monday** -14:00 Art Group (WI)
- 15:00-15.45 Mobile Post Office
Tuesday - 14:00 Art Group 18:30 Pilates
Wednesday - 11:00 Tai Chi 19:00 Dungeons & Dragons
Thursday - 09:00 Mums and Tots (Term time)
- 19:00 Yoga

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 Wednesday - 10:00 Craft Club
3rd Saturday - 10:00 Jewellery/Crafting Workshops

Six Weekly

- Saturday** - 12:00 Board Gaming Group

We have availability for regular bookings, both in the Main Hall and in the Committee Room. Tuesday afternoons, Wednesday afternoons/evenings, Thursday afternoons, Friday mornings/afternoons as well as some Saturdays/Sundays are available for Parties/Workshops/Group Meetings. Please contact Jon Tarry 01352 780842 to enquire/book.

theWI Rhosemor WI

My Nain used to say that time goes faster as you get older, I used to think that that is impossible. I'm not so sure now, I'm sure it was only last week I wrote the last WI Report for HMN. Apparently not as the WI members have been busy. The run up to Christmas took us to the Beaufort Park Hotel for a Christmas Dinner which was enjoyed by all. At our party in the village hall we were again entertained by Northop Singers – an excellent mixed choir who encouraged us to join in creating a real party atmosphere.

In our January meeting our very own local poet Steve Blakesley entertained us when he read out some of his poems. The humorous and entertaining poems were very thought provoking. Steve also judged the competition – a poem or limerick. This is one of the entries and at this time I'm not sure if Blodwen has written her thoughts for HMN.

*There's a young ewe on the mountain called Blodwen,
She dreamt of pulling Santa's sleigh quite often
Last year she was sooo delighted
To help pull the sleigh, when invited
She may tell of her travels in H.M.N.*

Penny and Pat have again been brilliantly organising us and over the next few months we shall be having a talk by Jo from Tropics on the importance and history of skincare, a Beetle drive, Tasting Criad Gin, flower arranging and lunch dates at The Red Lion, Northop; The Queens Head, Mold and the Crown, Lixwm. So, you see we are not just 'Jam and Jerusalem', there's beauty, alcohol tasting and entertainment.

Contact me or any WI member for more information - 01352780394 wendysigsworth@gmail.com

Wendy Sigsworth



CYNGOR CYMUNED HELYGAIN HALKYN COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Quarterly Report

Criminal Offences Reported Within the Community:

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

The Nant (A55): 1 x Violence

Halkyn: 1 x Anti social behaviour / 2 x Violence

Pentre Halkyn: 1 x Anti social behaviour / 1 x Vehicle Crime / 6 x Violence

Rhes-Y-Cae: 1 x Anti social behaviour

Rhosesmor: 1 x Anti social behaviour / 1 x Possession of a Weapon / 1 x Theft / 1 x Violence

Halkyn Council Budget 2026 – 2027

At the Halkyn Community Council budget setting process, held at the January meeting, the Council agreed to increase their precept for the forthcoming financial year from £53,000.00 to £63,000.00 – an increase of £10,000.00. The increase to a Band D property charge will be £45.82, an increase of £6.81p a year (17.46% - £0.57p extra per month). In reaching their decision to increase the precept, the Council Members took into consideration the following: until a precept increase a year ago, the Council's budget had not been increased for a number of years. This has reduced the level of funds in the general, ear-marked and emergency reserves budgets. During the past four years the Council have utilised funds totalling £42,000.00 from their reserves to enhance the children's play areas of Halkyn, Pentre Halkyn, Rhosesmor and Rhes-Y-Cae. The increase will support the general Council running costs at approximately 9.96%, together with the increased costs for both the children's summer play scheme at £660.00 and street lighting electricity increase at £3,400.00, which equate to 7.5% of the increase to the current Council budget.

Concerns with Number of Road Traffic Incidents & Injuries on A55

Reported in the previous edition of the Halkyn Mountain News, Councillor Brian Coleclough had expressed his concerns with the high number of accidents that are occurring on the A55 in the area of The Nant and Pentre Halkyn, in general. Whilst County Councillor Simon Jones has endeavoured to arrange a meeting with Mr Ken Skates MS, the Welsh Government Cabinet Secretary for Transport and North Wales, this has proved impossible. Mr Skates has previously declined invitations to attend a site meeting in Halkyn to discuss in person.

However, County Councillor Simon Jones arranged a meeting in Halkyn Parish Hall in December with Hannah Blythyn MS, County Councillor Simon Jones, Halkyn Community Councillors' Brian Coleclough (Vice Chair) and Howard Morris. The Community Council have written further to Mr Ken Skates to enquire as to the present position to alleviate concerns on the A55 road in the area of The Nant in Pentre Halkyn.

First Aid Course

Unfortunately, the Emergency First Aid & Defibrillator course scheduled to be held in Halkyn Parish Hall on Friday, 14th November at 7.00pm, was cancelled due to only four registrations to attend. The Council express their thanks to the four residents who booked on the course.

Flintshire County Council (Street Scene)

The following concerns have been reported to Street Scene:

- (1) Blocked and sinking gully, sited at the top of Springfield Hill. Photograph provided and sent to Street Scene and Street Scene Officer.
- (2) Pot hole: Opposite the bus shelter in Rhosesmor. A number of residents have advised that when the pot hole is full of water, drivers do not realise there is a pot hole which results in both people being splashed and vehicles swaying following hitting the pot hole.
- (3) Middle Mill Lane, Halkyn: Surface heavily deteriorated – between area of pond and cattle grid & beyond.
- (4) B5123 Rhosesmor: Pot holes outside the former Post Office.
- (5) B5123 Rhosesmor: Pot holes adjacent to Cross Keys Estate.
- (6) Northop Lane: travelling from Rhosesmor – a number of pot holes.

Planning Applications and Decisions

The Community Council make 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 Council web site – details as below. Planning decisions can be perused on the County Council planning portal at: <https://planning.agileapplications.co.uk/flintshire>.

Donations and Financial Support

The Halkyn Community Council have provided the following financial assistance since the last edition of the Halkyn Mountain News: £725.00 - Halkyn United Junior Football Club towards a secure container/ £500.00 - Wales Air Ambulance: (Annual donation) /£400.00 - Holywell Leisure Centre for annual grant/ £500.00 - Marie Curie (Great Daffodil Appeal) for annual grant.

Phillip Parry

Clerk to Halkyn Community Council

Tel: 01352 720547

E-mail: clerk@halkyn.org.uk

Web Site: www.halkyn.org.uk

Rhes-y-Cae Village Hall

Rhes-Y-Cae Village Hall is available to hire for events, meetings, parties etc. To enquire or to book the hall, please contact Wendy Hughes 07922 181313 or email rhesycaevillagehall@gmail.com.

Weekly Diary

Tuesday 7pm - 9pm Social Needlecraft Group. Contact Susan Nuttall 07557 965441

Thursday 5.45pm - 6.45pm Chair Yoga, with Jane

7pm - 9pm Yoga with Jane Lloyd 07977 048469

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, 17th February - Coffee Morning 10.30am - 12.30pm In aid of Village Hall funds

Saturday, 28th February - Oil Painting Workshop with local artist Catherine Jones

Tuesday, 17th March - Coffee Morning 10.30am - 12.30pm In aid of Village Hall funds

Tuesday, 31st March - Coffee Morning 10.30am - 12.30pm in aid of Christchurch Rhes-y-Cae

Friday, 17th April - Prize Bingo Doors open 7pm, eyes down 7.30pm. In aid of NEWCIS

Previous Events

Christmas Coffee Morning and Craft Stalls - Saturday, 15th November

A very successful and busy morning in the village hall, raising funds for our Over 60s Christmas lunch! Big thanks to our lovely stallholders for sharing their creations - a wide range of fantastic crafts, cakes, plants and wreaths, books and lots more! Also, a big thank you to everyone who came to support the event, and bought raffle tickets and donated raffle prizes, had a go at our 'Guess the weight of the Cake' and 'Guess the number of sweets in the jar' competitions, and well done to our winners! The total amount raised was £374.75.



Annual Over 60s Christmas Lunch – Saturday, 6th December

The weather was kind to us this year! We had a great turn-out of guests, who all seemed to enjoy their two course Christmas lunch with wine, followed by mince pies, coffee and fantastic entertainment from local ukulele group Oopa Duk. Big thanks to our crew in the kitchen - we had lots of compliments about the great food! Thanks also to everyone who donated raffle prizes and helped out in other ways - we're very fortunate to have a great team of volunteers and supporters!



If you have any suggestions for future events that we could hold in the hall, please let us know via the email address above.

Message from Hannah Blythyn MS

It was good to join colleagues from across North Wales recently at Wrexham Bus Station for an announcement promising to bring in a £2 cap on single bus fares after the election in 2026, helping to make every day journeys more affordable for people across our communities and building on the success of the Welsh Government's £1 fares for under-21s and free travel for over-60s. The £1 scheme has seen two million bus journeys taken by young people across Wales since it was introduced.



There's also a plan to create more than 100 new bus routes, shaped by local people, linking communities with jobs, hospitals and transport hubs. It's about making public transport work for the people who rely on it every day and making it a practical reality for more of us. These changes are possible because the Welsh Government has taken action to bring buses back into public ownership, giving communities a stronger voice and ensuring fairer access to transport across Wales.

Despite the cold weather, I started the New Year as I mean to go on – getting out and about in the community, talking to local people. The early part of the year saw me busy delivering my latest newsletter, which updates constituents on a range of issues from the matters I have been raising in the Senedd on your behalf to a focus on transport; tackling potholes, fairer fares and better buses. As a local representative rooted in the community, it has always been important to me to reach out and be accessible, whether that's through newsletters, surveys, stalls or street surgeries, something that I am committed to continue in 2026.



Hannah Blythyn MS
delivering the newsletter locally

local issues. From my Democracy in Action days with local schools to holding funding fairs, my Public Transport Forum bringing together rail and bus operatives alongside trade union representatives, as

well as my Our Home, Our Health survey which asked for your views on our NHS, I'm committed to work hard for our people and places, this year and every year I am privileged to be able to do so.

Our town centres matter. They're not just places to shop, they're part of who we are and where we come from. Growing up in a small town, and living in one today, I know how important it is that our high streets are able to thrive, not just survive. That's why I recently asked Welsh Government for an update on investment in town centres across North Wales. Through the Transforming Towns programme, more than £80m has already been invested, helping to support local businesses, create jobs and bring new life back to our high streets. In Holywell, funding helped to reopen the high street and I'm continuing to work with traders and local voices to shape what comes next.

I've long campaigned for our town centres and I'm committed to standing up for our local shops, producers and small businesses. I'll keep pushing for continued investment and for communities to have a real say and stake in their town's future. I recently enjoyed the chance to sit down for a chat with Louise and Kevin from Nationwide when I dropped into one of the bank's local branches recently. The visit came on the back of the building society's commitment to keep a branch presence in communities across the country until at least 2030.

I know this announcement was welcome news not only to their customers but to high streets as a whole, as we have sadly witnessed the opposite trend in recent years as many well-known banking names have shut up shop, including most recently Santander which is shutting its only Flintshire branch. I know how important banks are to our people and places, that's why I will be continuing efforts to make sure there's a better banking presence across the area, including the ongoing push for a Banking Hub in Holywell like there now is in Prestatyn and Flint.

I had the chance to join Unison Cymru recently as Welsh Labour set out plans to boost pay and conditions for the workforce that keep our schools running across Wales. The new policy would bring in a new School Support Staff Negotiating Body in law which will mean expanding the pay and training opportunities of teaching assistants, lunchtime supervisors, cooks, cleaners, caretakers and other support staff and it will also put an end to term-time only pay. I know this is something that Unison members have campaigned for and it's something I've spoken about a lot in the Senedd in recent years.

It's the next step for social partnership and fair pay in Wales and it will be a transformative change for school support staff. As a minister back in 2022, I was instrumental in delivering the Social Partnership and Public Procurement (Wales) Act, which provides a framework to enhance the wellbeing of the people of Wales by improving public services through social partnership working, promoting fair work and social responsible public procurement, so this policy gets my full support.

It was announced recently that a new offshore wind farm has been secured off our coast in North East Wales which will mean more skilled jobs and opportunities across our area, alongside playing a part in unlocking our country's renewable energy potential. The Awel y Môr development will support skilled jobs in our corner of the country and comes on the back of the Port of Mostyn getting the go-ahead last year for a major expansion that will create hundreds of jobs.

The Awel y Môr project is expected to create around 2,000 jobs during the construction phase, including in the supply chain, and an additional 50 roles are expected to support delivery with renewable energy firm RWE. All this comes on the back of the Welsh Government's investment in the skills

that sit alongside this, such as Coleg Llandrillo's Wind Turbine Technician Apprenticeship at the £12m engineering centre in Rhyl. You can read more about the project at www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/clyw8n22gwno.

Finally, local residents could be entitled to more support with the cost of living than they are currently getting. Since 2020, more than £10.5m has been put back into people's pockets, meaning support with bills, daily expenses and debt, thanks to the Welsh Government's Claim What's Yours campaign. Just one call will tell you all you need to know about what you're entitled to and how to get it. Call Advice Line Cymru for free on 0800 702 2020.

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/HannahBlythyn. 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.



Pentre Halkyn Village Hall

Pentre Halkyn Community Centre has a new Management Committee following the retirement of Brian Coleclough and Megan Davies.

New Committee

We would like to say a huge and heartfelt thank you to Brian and Megan for their many years of dedication to the community. Thanks to their hard work, the building has continued to be available and well used by local groups, and we are very grateful for everything they have done.

The new Management Committee is:

- Chair: Fran Lister
- Secretary: Hugh Burgess
- Treasurer: Wendy Lawlor
- Committee Members: Maureen Claydon, Barbara Parry, Glyn Coleclough, Howard Morris.

We are also very grateful to our caretakers and cleaners, and we are extremely thankful to them for the time and effort they put into keeping the Centre clean, tidy, and welcoming.

We know there is plenty to do to keep the building in good shape. We are currently putting together a maintenance and upgrade plan and looking for grant funding to help us get the work done.

Whats On...

The Centre hosts a number of regular weekly activities, including:

- Katherine Jones Art Class – Tuesdays, 7–9pm
- Start the Week Service – Mondays 10am, followed by Coffee Morning at 10.30am (all welcome)
- Over 50s Bingo – Mondays 1.30pm–3pm
- Holywell Art Club – Wednesdays, 10.30am–2pm

The Centre is available for private hire and meetings. For enquiries:

*call or text: 07484107620
or email: pentrehalkynbook@gmail.com*

Children's Spring Writing Competition

Spring Results

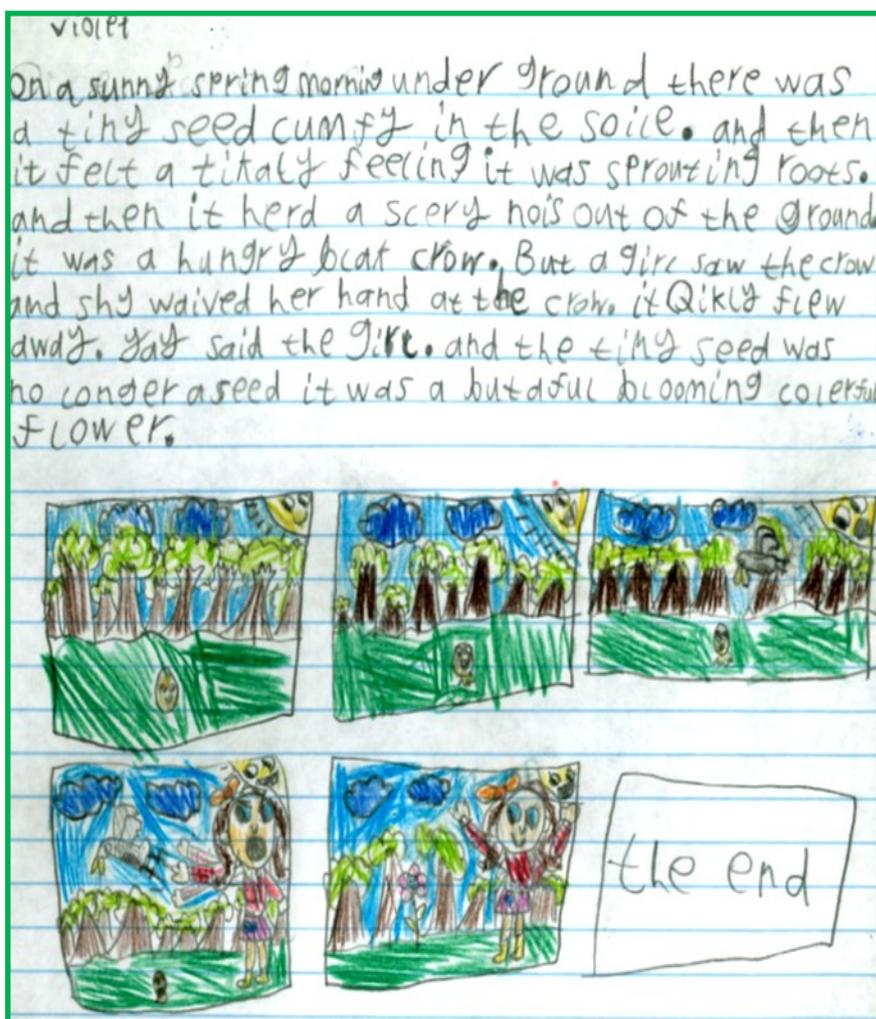
A very big thank you to all of the entrants. The standard of writing (and drawing) was very high and the competition was very difficult to judge. This meant that even though some entries were very good they did not win this time but they should of course try again in future competitions and who knows...? Also, we only received entries from Lixwm VA Church in Wales Primary School on this occasion. Entries from Brynford and Rhosesmor CP's would be most welcome for our next competition.

The results are as follows (drum roll please!):

First Prize Winner Violet Bennet, Year 3 for her wonderful story about the life of a seed. Violet wins a £50 voucher.

The runners up are Harriet Jones, Year 5 for "Spring Times" and Rheya Lloyd, Year 6 "The Bunny who didn't want Spring". Harriet and Rheya win a voucher of £25 each.

Very well done to all our winners!



Our First Prize Winner—Violet Bennet
Year 3—Ysgol Lixwm

Children's Summer Writing Competition

Open to pupils of Lixwm, Brynford & Rhos Helyg County Primary Schools

Theme: *Summer— let your imagination shine!*

Competition Details:

Again we are looking for a short story or poem inspired by the seasons - this time Summer. The story can be about anything you like as long as it is summer related. We know that summer may still feel far off so maybe wait a little while to feel the strength of the sun again before starting to write. That said, don't leave it too late (details of the closing date below)! So tell us about buckets and spades, adventures, how you miss school during the holidays or whatever else you like - as long as it is about Summer! Pieces should be up to 500 words long. Details of prizes and how to enter appear below.

Deadline for entries:

20th April 2026

Prizes:

Winner: £50 Book Token/Voucher

Runners-up: £25 Book Token/Voucher each

How to enter:

Please submit your entry either direct to us at newsforhmn@gmail.com or via your local school.

Good luck!



HALKYN MOUNTAIN KIDS CLUB + HOLIDAY CLUB

Charity No: 1197828

SPACES AVAILABLE NOW!

We are situated in Ysgol Rhos Helyg Primary School. The club is registered with CIW (Care Inspectorate Wales); all staff are DBS checked and qualified, all certificates are available to see. We welcome children from nursery age 2.5yrs up to year 8 in high school 14yrs.

Holiday club

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

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

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

Prices for Holiday Club only

£30 per child for a full day. £20 per child for half a day (until 1pm)

Opening times for After School Club only 3.10pm – 5.30pm Mon – Fri Term times only.

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

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



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

A Trim Trail where we enjoy climbing, balancing and swinging • A park with slides, bridges and balancing frames • A large field and playground where we also have lots of fun with scooters and football matches etc. • 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 Gemma Mcleod, Catherine Shine & Amanda Mcleod (Senior Playworkers) on 01352 780265 / 07591 239511

or check us out on Facebook [\(5\) Halkyn Mountain Kids After School Club/Holiday club | Facebook](#)

or email us on Halkynmountainkidsclub@gmail.com

or even visit our website at [Halkyn Mountain Kids Afterschool Club and Holiday Club | Ysgol Rhos Helyg](#)

SESIWN COGINIO

Pwdin Afal ac Almon

Cynhwysion

400g (1pwys) o afalau coginio

50g (2 Owns) o siwgr brown

100g (4 owns) o siwgr man

100g (4 owns) o fargarin

2 wy ffres

25g (1 owns) o flawd codi

75g (3 owns) o almon wedi I falu'n fan

Ychydig o gnau almon I addurno

Dull

1. Gwresogwch y popty 200C/ffan 180C/Nwy 6 ac iro dysgl dal gwres.
 2. Wedi stiwio'r afalau gyda'r siwgr brown mewn sosban rhowch yn y dysgl i oeri.
 3. Curwch y siwgr man a'r margarin.
 4. Cymysgwch y wyau a'u curl i mewn i'r cymysgedd.
 5. Hidlwch y blawd a'r almon sydd wedi ei falu a plethwch i mewn i'r gymysgedd.
 6. Taenwch y gymysgedd dros yr afalau a gosodwch y chau almon ar ei ben.
 7. Pobwch am tua 20 munud.
 8. Gweinwch gyda cwstad neu hufen ffres i'w wneud yn arbennig cymysgwch ychydig o frandi gyda'r hufen.
- Mwynhewch!

COOKING SESSION

Apple and Almond Pudding

Ingredients

400g (1lb) cooking apples

50g (2ozs) brown sugar

100g (4ozs) caster sugar

100g (4ozs) margarine

2 fresh eggs

25g (1oz) self raising flour

75g (3ozs) ground almonds

A few almonds to decorate

Method

1. Preheat oven to 200C/fan 180C/Gas 6 and grease an ovenproof dish.
2. Stew the apples and brown sugar in a saucepan then put into the dish to cool.
3. Cream together the caster sugar and margarine.
4. Whisk the eggs and beat into the mixture.
5. Sieve the flour and ground almonds and fold into the mixture.
6. Spread the mixture over the apples and place the almonds on top.
7. Bake for approx 20 minutes.
8. Serve with custard or fresh cream to make it special, mix a little brandy into the cream.

Enjoy!

Menna Coleclough

Shopping in Halkyn Mountain 100 years ago

My wife Delyth and I came to live in Halkyn in 1975. We bought a house called Laburnum Cottage located at the entrance to the Pant Quarry. It is now named Pant – y Go.

While renovating the house I found some old shopping receipts which were in poor condition and damp. I wrapped them in tissues in a box and put them in the loft. Many years later I came across these receipts and having dried out it was possible to make out the names of the shops, the goods purchased and the dates, which are mostly between 1915 and 1925. This is about 100 years ago.

Here are a few examples:

Bought of T. L. VICKERS FAMILY BUTCHER			T. W. E. Jones	CAEAU GLEISION
April 1915		£ s d	FAMILY BUTCHERS	HALKYN
BEEF	3lbs 10oz	3.2		£ s d
PORK	4lbs	4.0	LAMB	1lbs 6ozs 1.7
NECK	3 ½ lbs	3.0	CHOPS	12ozs 10 ½
JONES BROS. POST OFFICE HALKYN Jan 1926			EDWARD HUGHES	Sept 1915
TEA DEALERS & GENERAL DRAPERS			FAMILY GROCER, TEA, COFFEE PROVISION, CORN & FLOUR MERCHANT	
		£ s d		S D
2 YDS	FLANNEL	3.10	FLOUR	2 .6
1 YD	ELASTIC	4	STOVE VARNISH	6
			VINEGAR	1
			CHEESE	5 ½
			RICE	3

You will notice how cheap the cost of items seem 100 years ago but we must take into account the average wages at that time. In 1919 many male workers earned £4-5 per week and agricultural labourers 30s per week. Most women employed were paid between 10s-15s.

My wife and I have been living in Halkyn for 50 years and there have been great changes in how we shop. When we came in 1975 there were several Post Offices – Halkyn, Pentre Halkyn & Rhosesmor plus General Stores in most villages eg. Rhosesmor, Halkyn, Pentre Halkyn, Rhes-y-Cae and Brynford.

Now there is only one General Store in Pentre Halkyn as well as Joleen Meadows Farm Shop in Lixwm.

Supermarkets have arrived in our local towns, Mold, Flint and Holywell and most of the residents of Halkyn Mountain do their shopping there. In addition, there are large retail parks such as Broughton and Chesire Oaks.

Some have their groceries delivered to their homes and instead of Post Offices a mobile Post Office visits the villages weekly. The growth of online shopping has enabled residents to order almost everything from home and have it delivered promptly. Delivery vans are a common sight on Halkyn Mountain.

Recently St Paul's Church Rhosesmor has recognised that it could help its local community by opening its doors during the week and providing space for people to socialise, have refreshments and purchase basic groceries.

The area at the back of church is called The Outpost and it is staffed by volunteers who enable the church to stay open daily for the residents of Rhosesmor and surroundings to call in for food items and order meals. It is especially suitable for pensioners. This is a new development to compensate for the closing of the village shops across the mountain.



Eirlysiau Yncl Tom / Uncle Tom's Snowdrops

Ar ôl oerni a llymder y Gaeaf, un peth sy'n lloni fy nghalon yw gwybod ym mēr fy esgyrn bod y Gwanwyn ar ei ffordd. Allai ddim egluro'n iawn mewn geiriau gymaint dwin sbio mlaen at weld yr haul eto, at fwynhau y dyddiau yn ymestyn ac am sylwi a gwerthfawrogi yr ardd yn dod yn fyw eto. Un o'r arwyddion sy'n dangos i mi bod dyddia gwell i ddod yw gweld eirlysiau gwynion yn dangos eu penna bychain uwchben y pridd caled. Mae nhw'n floda bach mor dlws, mor berffaith. Mae nhw'n wastad yn fy synnu bob blwyddyn - er gwaethaf gwynt a'r glaw, er gwaethaf yr eira a'r rhew, mae nhw'n mynnu gwthio eu penna bychain trwy'r pridd tua'r gola! Anhygoel! Yncl Tom oedd yn gyfrifol am blannu yr eirlysiau yn ein gardd ni. Fe ddaeth ryw fore o'i gartref yn Nimbych pan o'n i yn fy ngwaith a'u plannu'n ddistaw bach mewn un rhes igam ogam yn yr ardd. Toedd gen i ddim syniad ei fod wedi eu plannu nes iddo fy ffonio y noson honno!

'Ti di sylwi ar ryw bath newydd yn yr ardd? Dos i gal cip?'

Wedi rhoi'r ffôn i lawr, mi es i'n syth i sbio a'u gweld ar unwaith - torf o flodau bach gwyn yn chwifio'n nôl ac ymlaen yn y gwynt. Mor, mor brydferth.

Er mor eiddil a bregus eu golwg, bloda bach cryf a dewr ydynt - bob tro yn barod i wynebu a gwrthsefyll yr oerni. Yr eirlysiau, gyda llaw yw'r blodau cynta y flwyddyn i ddangos eu penna del yn yr ardd ac yn arwain y ffordd i flodau eraill. Gwych de? Mae cryfder a dewrder y blodau bach unigryw yma wastad yn gwneud i mi feddwl am Yncl Tom a pha mor debyg odd o i rinweddau yr eirlysiau. Fe anfonwyd Yncl Tom a'i frodyr - Wil (fy nhad), Trefor, a Bob i gartref Bontnewydd, Cernarfon wedi marwolaeth eu mham. Er yr heriau mawr a wynebodd y brodyr ifanc ac er mor drist a chaled odd eu sefyllfa, roedd gan bob un wan jac ohonynt obaith am betha' gwell i ddod. Fe lwyddodd y 4 ohonynt i oresgyn amseroedd tywyll a byw eu bywydau hyd yr eitha!! Er bod gan yr eirlysiau sawl enw Lili wen fach, Tlysni'r Haf, Cloch Maban - i mi, blodau Yncl Tom ydynt tra y byddaf!

Oes na rywun yn cofio y gân –

'O lili wen fach, o ble daethost ti,
Ar gwynt mor arw ac mor oer ei gri,
Sut y mentraist di allan drwy'r eira i gyd?
Nid oes flodyn bach arall i weld yn y byd'
Pennill sy'n codi calon!!



Nia Williams

Oggies

An Oggie is a larger Welsh version of a Cornish Pastie. The main ingredients are meat, gravy, potatoes and pastry but they do vary. They were originally a meal for miners to eat for their lunch whilst down the mine. The pastry crust was held whilst eating the pasty and if it was too dirty to eat the crust would be discarded. References to the Oggie can be found as far back as 1181 when St David's Cathedral was being built. Max Boice made the Oggie a household name in the 1970s with his popular song Oggie, Oggie, Oggie, oi, oi, oi. The song was sung and still is at the Welsh Rugby Internationals.

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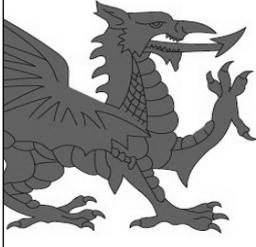
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HANNAH BLYTHYN
STANDING FOR THE COMMUNITY THAT SHAPED ME
Senedd Cymru
Welsh Parliament
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