

Halkyn Mountain News

Newyddion Mynydd Helygain

Issue/Rhifyn 199 – Summer/Haf 2026

Morning breaks on hedgerow lanes,
Soft with dew and silver rains.
Roses climb the cottage wall,
And blackbirds answer sparrows' call.

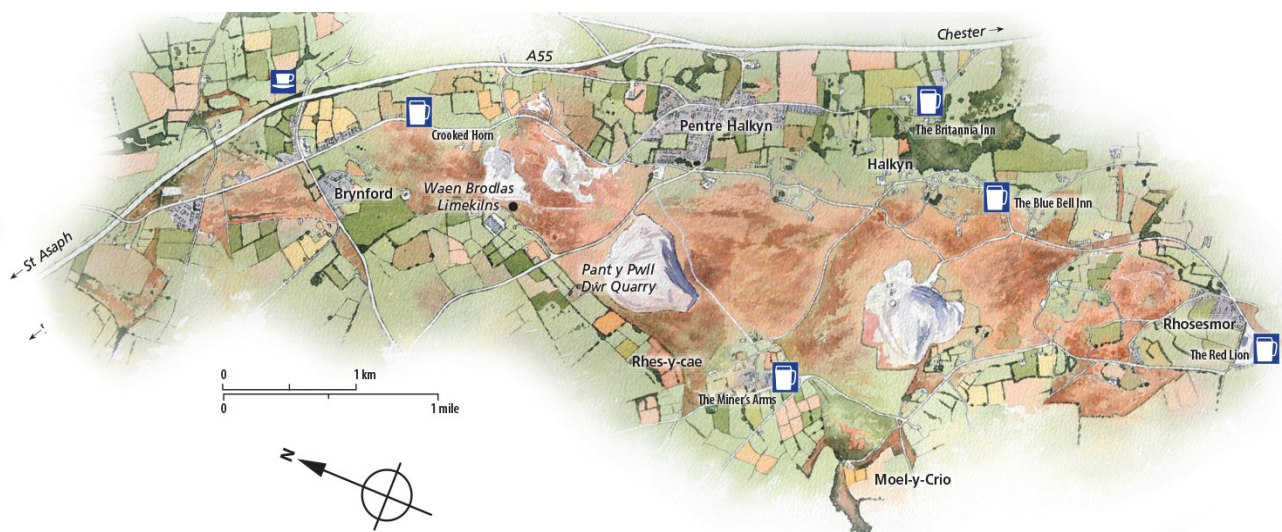
Cloud and sun in turn appear,
One brief shower, then brightness clear.
On village greens the children run,
And cricket starts beneath the sun.

The fields lie warm in patchwork rows,
With foxglove pink and hawthorn bows.
Along the stream the willows lean,
And all the world is washed in green.

Bees hum low in clover sweet,
While shadows cool the dusty heat.
The swallows dip, the poppies sway,
And noon drifts softly through the day.

Far off, the church bell marks the hour,
Beyond the lane and elderflower.
The day stands still in scented light,
Unhurried in its calm delight.

Then evening falls so late and slow,
With amber light on fields aglow.
And summer keeps, through dusk's soft air,
The quiet grace still resting there.



The Autumn Edition - Issue 200 - will be distributed in September 2026.

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

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

Dear Readers

Welcome to our Summer 2026 issue of Halkyn Mountain News. As summer arrives, bringing longer days and brighter skies, I hope you are able to take time to enjoy the warmth and beauty this season has to offer. Whether you're planning adventures near home, leisurely walks on the mountain or simply relaxing in your garden with a good book, summer is a wonderful opportunity to unwind and embrace life's simple pleasures. Remember to stay safe in the sun, cherish moments with loved ones, and make the most of every sunny day (we don't get many of them!).

This issue is once again full of interesting articles for our readers to enjoy. Inside, you'll find the results of our Children's Summer Writing Competition, as well as details of our Autumn competition on **page 25**. It was a real delight for the team to read the children's stories and poems. We would like to thank everyone who took part for their hard work and enthusiasm, and we send our heartfelt congratulations to the winners.

Our Autumn issue will be delivered at the beginning of September, and it will mark our **200th** issue. What a wonderful milestone! We look forward to delivering to your homes for many years to come.

We hope you enjoy reading this edition of the newsletter and would be delighted to receive your updates and event news for the Autumn season.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer.

The Halkyn Mountain News Team

The Editorial Team reserves the right to edit submitted material.

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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

We sheep are not necessarily known for being an observant species, but I can assure you that we are. Although Halkyn Mountain is generally a safe place to live, we remain vigilant, as anything can surprise us, from unfamiliar dogs and horses to bicycles, motorbikes and quadbikes. Our observant nature sometimes means we can be rather nosey and inquisitive. We like to know what's going on.

Recently there was quite a lot of activity at a property in Rhosesmor. Clearly, they were preparing for a party. We sheep took a keen interest (discreetly of course). Two vehicles heading towards the event, happened to drive past me, just as some humans were walking past. The humans read the signs on the vans, and chatted about them, which was very useful, as I would have wondered what the signs meant. The signs apparently said: "Spitting Pig Co". Well, every day is a school day they say! I am not very familiar with pigs, as there aren't any roaming on the mountain, but I certainly never knew they could spit. Perhaps they have developed it as an art form to the extent they have formed a company of pigs and are appearing at parties to entertain guests. I know that humans can have a taste for unusual entertainment, but pigs spitting is a new one on me. It would put me off my food! Perhaps they have a game to see which pig can spit the furthest. Pigs attending human parties, whatever next!

Clearly the humans had gone to the trouble of hiring the pig troupe, when we local sheep could have provided some entertainment. If only they had asked, I could easily have mustered a choir.

Later that evening there was music playing and lots of people jumping around enjoying it. I could see a little through a gap in the hedge, just big enough to poke my head through without being noticed. On this occasion I was not being nosey, just curious, for educational reasons.

Humans like to think they are the only species which dances, but I know that's not true. You may have heard of line dancing which is popular with some humans. I can tell you that sheep were line dancing, long before humans ever heard about it. Many of you will have come across a sheep which stamps its foot while staring at you. This is an effective way of issuing a polite but firm warning that you are invading our space, while at the same time alerting the rest of the flock. Sheep have always done this and, while some lambs naturally inherit this as an automatic reaction, others need to be taught. To ensure that all lambs can do this, we hold classes when all the lambs can practice. Not every sheep stamps the same leg, so during the classes we get the lambs to use both in turn. Over the years our ancestors developed a line dance as a way of teaching lambs. However, it was so much fun that adult sheep joined in and soon sheep line dancing caught on. Any ewe not wanting to join in will normally keep time by tapping her hoof on a stone.

You would be correct in thinking that we only do this at night when no humans are around. Like humans, sheep know how to have fun. I'm sure you would be surprised by how much activity there is on the mountain when humans are out of sight. I doubt if you humans realise that we sheep have an incredible sense of humour. Why wouldn't we when you humans do so many funny things which make us laugh! A sheep laughing is a joyous thing. Strangely, humans never notice as outwardly it's very discreet.

It is always important to teach lambs well, and to pass on flock traditions. They need to quickly learn how to look after themselves, and to keep safe from harm. They also need to learn respect and courtesy, especially when in the presence of some of the flock elders. All lambs need to learn to find their way home, be able to navigate the mountain, know where to find the best spots to sleep, where to have a good scratch and to find

tasty treats. I think that perhaps you humans may have forgotten to teach your offspring some of the basics of life as I have never seen a young human stamping their foot nor having a good scratch against the trunk of a willow tree. I also see humans walk the length and breadth of the mountain without once stopping to graze. They walk past all the tasty vegetation without so much as a nibble. Goodness knows how young humans manage to fend for themselves!

Whether lamb or human, it's nice to watch the young growing up, and learning life skills. While we can teach them as best as we can, they still need to make their own mistakes. I know I did. I remember not heeding warnings from my mother about cattle grids. I felt sure I could navigate it carefully but then whoosh and I fell in with all four legs dangling. It gave me such a shock, and my friends had to get one of the ewes to help. I was so embarrassed especially when the ewe dragged me out by my wool. Even now when I walk near that cattle grid I shiver at the thought.

I'll sign off now, as I need to go and have a gentle word with a lamb who is stamping their foot in front of a traffic cone.

May you never get foot rot and always have clover.

Bye for now

Blodwen

Blodwen lives on Moel y Gaer

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)
email: clwydgroup@hardy-plant.org.uk
www.facebook.com/HPSClwyd
www.hardy-plant.org.uk/clwyd

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](#)

[A Tribute to Gwyneth Lloyd Hughes \(1936-2026\)](#)

Gwyneth and her husband Jeff moved to the village of Rhes-Y-Cae in the early 1970s with their daughters, Judith and Clare. She began work as a teacher at Ysgol Rhes-Y-Cae shortly after. Gwyneth thoroughly enjoyed her time as a teacher, developing good relationships with the children, parents and staff. She thrived in the small school environment where teamwork was essential. She later became headteacher at the school. She was devoted to education and remained in post until her retirement in 1994.

Alongside her teaching role, Gwyneth was also a dedicated member of Rhes-y-Cae church. She took an active part in church fundraising events, and organised several annual church walks in the area. In later years, Gwyneth enjoyed her Halkyn Parish church holidays. She was always very supportive of village hall events, from attending the weekly salsa classes to the regular coffee mornings.

Gwyneth sadly passed away on 14th February 2026, aged 89 years. The funeral service was held at Rhes - Y-Cae church. The service was conducted by the Rev'd Hugh Burgess, followed by refreshments at the village hall. Donations were shared between the Village Hall Association and Age and Dementia Friendly Holywell.

The family wish to thank everyone for their sympathy and support during this sad time and their generous donations.

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

It just gets better, da iawn to all the performers for another fantastic evening. It amazes me why people pay a fortune to go to music festivals across the country when Rhosesmor has its very own fabulous Mini Music festival. £400 pounds was raised, which was distributed to local good causes including Rupert's Rainbow.

Three of last year's performers were unable to attend but we welcomed three new youngsters who certainly didn't disappoint. For the first time we had the pleasure of a flautist to entertain us. The music, as usual was varied with songs from musicals, to The Beatles, to Tom Jones and Dusty Springfield.

The refreshments were served by the volunteers from the Outpost, the cheese supplied by Nic's Cheeses, Mold, free of charge. Thanks to all.

Thanks to Rhys who was excellent as compere, keeping everything flowing. Thanks, of course, to the performers, Alessia, Alice, Yan, Ava, David, Ava, Elena, Rhian, Charlie, Mali. The finale was brilliant, when all the performers joined together with the audience to sing Abba's 'Thank you for the music'. I'm sure some of the people in Rhosesmor, who didn't attend heard us all singing in the beautiful church of St Paul, which we are so blessed to have.

One of the best things about the concert was seeing everyone leaving with a big smile on their face and I'm sure they looked and felt ten years younger.

Wendy Sigsworth



Halkyn Coffee Morning

It is well over twenty years since the coffee morning was started by Veda Davies in Halkyn. Originally it was to raise money for the church, it now raises money for various charities, a different charity is chosen each month by picking charity names out of a hat. The coffee mornings have raised a whopping great total of approximately £10,000 since Jean Roberts took over its organisation almost 20 years ago.

The first Wednesday of the month at Halkyn Parish Hall is the day and place to go to Halkyn's Coffee morning. There's a friendly bunch of people there to greet you, Muriel is on the door to sell raffle tickets and take the entrance fees. They make a good cup of tea and coffee, biscuits are provided, sometimes cake or tea cakes. A tombola type stall is there, and every ticket is a winner.

It always puts you in good spirits when you know you have contributed to raising funds for charities. When you can do it whilst you enjoy good company, tea, coffee, cake and a good natter it's even better. Put it on your calendar each month to remind you to go to Halkyn Coffee morning.



A New Name for a Broader Vision

We're delighted to share some news about the next chapter of our group. To better reflect the range of work we do - celebrating not only the wildlife, but also the rich history and culture of our landscape - we've changed our name from Halkyn Mountain Nature Conservation Group to **Halkyn Mountain Heritage & Nature Group**.

Our new name captures our broader focus: protecting the mountain's natural environment and preserving its unique heritage for future generations.

We still have our two fabulously knowledgeable botanists with us, to help us locate and identify interesting finds on the mountain, and, over the coming months, we hope to encourage members of our community, with an interest in nature, history, or the landscape, to get involved.

We've also launched a new Facebook page where we'll continue to share updates, events, and photos from around the mountain. We'd love for you to join us there and stay connected, just search for Halkyn Mountain Heritage & Nature Group on Facebook or scan the QR code, and we will be delighted to accept you into our group.



On our new page, you will also be able to upload your own photos from the mountain, so that we can all share our finds and our botanists can help with identification if needed.

By the time this goes to press, we will have had our first walk of the year to see the Early Purple Orchids near Rhes-y-Cae. We will have an organised and advertised walk every month until next winter, but if anyone sees anything unusual on the mountain, we may put a shout out on the Facebook page and head out on extra walks to investigate.

Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm. Together, we're helping keep Halkyn Mountain special - for nature, heritage, and community alike.

Mavis Midgley

The Halkyn Mountain Heritage & Nature Group Team

Halkyn Parish Hall and Library



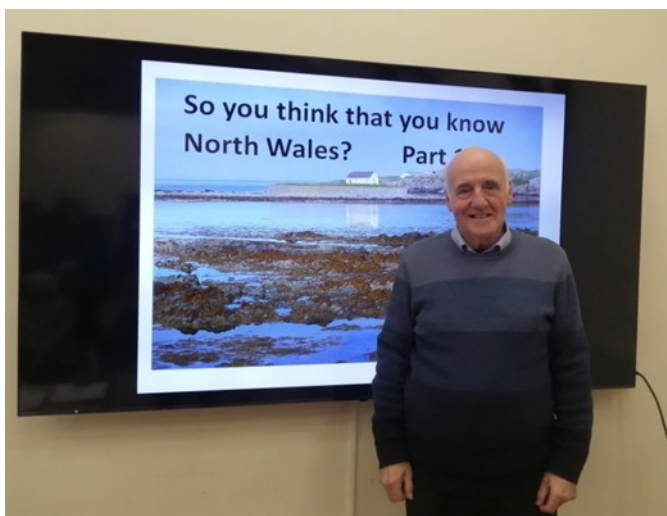
The hall is available for private functions including weddings, christenings, birthday parties (children's birthday parties up to 12 years old), a committee room for meetings, etc. The hall now has facilities for presentations and promotions with a wide screen TV available in the hall and committee room. 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

Halkyn WI

Halkyn WI meet on the first Thursday of each month at 2.00pm, in the village hall. Our meetings consist of an interesting programme of guest speakers, outings, quizzes and other fun activities.



In February our guest speaker was John Roberts, who gave a really informative talk entitled: 'So You Think You Know North Wales'. We all thought we did, until we heard Mr Roberts' descriptions of some interesting places hidden away in rural areas. These included a derelict Prisoner of War camp, a beautiful Jessie window, a hidden well, a painted chapel, a Drover's Chapel, shipwrecks, and the birth place of William Morgan. His stories were accompanied by a slideshow of beautiful photographs. We are looking forward to inviting him again, for part two of his talk. In March, popular speakers, Peter and Jan Robinson from the RNLI visited us once again. In addition to hearing Peter's very entertaining talk about his diving experiences to the shipwreck, Ocean Monarch, we also had the opportunity to buy RNLI products from Jan's stall.

In April we invited guests from neighbouring WIs to join us for a buffet lunch, and a seated yoga session, led by Jane Lloyd. Jane specialises in Hatha yoga. We enjoyed joining in as she demonstrated some exercises, suitable for people of all ages and ability levels. In addition, Jane explained the health benefits of each movement, as well as describing how those teaching yoga can diagnose many ailments, and problems with posture.



We are a small, friendly group, and would welcome new members. Anyone interested should contact Hazel Hughes (hazelhughes99@gmail.com) or Fiona Jones (fidoej3@talktalk.net), or just pop in and meet us. The first three meetings are free.

Rhosesmor Events

On the 28th March the Halkyn Mountain Youth Concert once again celebrated the wide and varied talent of the young people living in our area. Please see separate article by Wendy Sigsworth. Over £100 was raised for the Rupert's Rainbow Appeal. Research for Alternating Hemiplegia of Childhood (AHC) is severely underfunded and is progressing slowly. As a result of this diagnosis, Rupert will require ongoing investigations, close monitoring and lifelong full time specialist care, often requiring urgent visits to the USA.

In addition to this, another £180 was raised for Rupert's Rainbow in the chicks' nest, busily hatching their way through the lead up to Easter. Thank you again to Kate Barlow for her never ending line of crocheted chicks, meeting the eager demand over Easter.



The ever-generous people of the mountain also donated 35 Easter eggs for children's charities.

Still on the theme of light and colours, we were offered a unique opportunity in St Paul's Church during the evenings around Easter to step out of our hectic lives and to contemplate the message of light in the darkness. The uniquely shaped church lent itself readily to the gently moving light creating a peaceful and contemplative space for all to enjoy. Thanks to our own

highly talented and creative Natalie Griffiths, for the invention of this time and space, for those wishing to remember loved ones or just to take a break. £261.40 was raised for the Marie Curie end of life charity. Such was the success of the event, Natalie plans to bring us a similar experience again next year.

Forthcoming Events

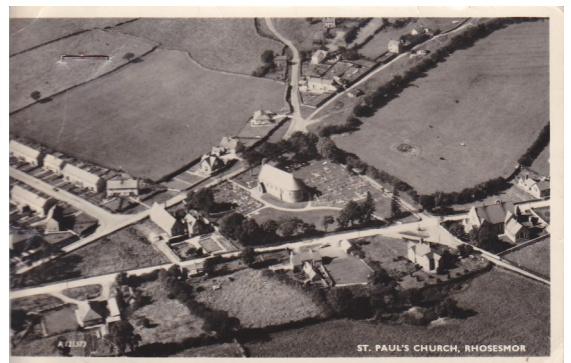
14th June - A stroll through Rhosesmor History. Starting at 2pm from church. Something for everyone. Join us on a guided, historic walk from the church, through the industrial and natural development of our mountain, past Tiger Tim and up to the Wern, returning to the church for refreshments. Led by John and Vicky Thomas.



7th August - 7 pm at St Paul's Church, returning by popular demand, the Welsh Elvis. An entertaining evening with cheese and wine refreshments.

12th September at 2pm - Country Crafts Afternoon. Fizz and strawberries, local artists' exhibition, games and rock choir. A relaxed afternoon with friends and neighbours.

Look out also for Proms in the Car Park in July.



Rhosesmor Events (Cont'd)

And join us in our new, award-winning weekly class of seated dance, Thursday, 2-3pm in St Paul's Church.

DANCING
FOR HEALTH CIC

AWARD WINNING

**SEATED OR
STANDING
DANCING**

**All the fun of dancing
but in a chair!**

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- Can be done seated or standing.
- Fully inclusive for all levels and abilities.
- Physical and social activity to improve your health and well-being.
- Award winning programme.
- Bring a friend or family member.



IRISH HEALTHCARE awards 2023 WINNER

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Weekly Classes EVERY THURSDAY
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St Paul's Church, Rhosesmor, Mold CH7 6WJ
TO BOOK CALL LIZ - 07771 938214
www.dancingforhealth.org.uk

In the next edition more news about our October Variety Entertainment evening, and of course, don't forget the annual Christmas Fair on 28th November in Rhosesmor Village Hall.

Please contact 07947 046695 or pop into The Outpost in Rhosesmor Church, if you would like to be part of the planning of Rhosesmor Events.

Christ Church, Rhes-y-Cae

Previous Events

We would like to thank everyone who supported our Easter Coffee Morning on Tuesday, 30th March.

Upcoming Event

Friday, 5th June - An evening with Ciriad Gin. To be held in the Village Hall, 7pm for 7.30pm. The proceeds for this evening go to support Christ Church.

Dorothy Reece, Treasurer, Christ Church

Rhosesmor Village Hall



Rhosesmor Village Hall, with a large main hall, committee room and well-equipped kitchen, is the perfect venue for parties, workshops, events and group meetings. Booking rates are very reasonable and we have availability for both one off and regular bookings. Please contact Jon Tarry on 01352 780 842 for enquiries and bookings.

CURRENT 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 - 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

Heartfelt

Art & Craft Fairs

10-3
PM

Warm
Welcome



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

Rhosesmor WI

I have heard people refer to the WI (endearingly so) as the Wild Indians, the Jam and Jerusalem ladies, the crafty people and I am sure there are many other names as well.

The members of the WI have such a wide range of skills including baking cakes, making clothes etc., but members have so many more. As an organisation, the WI has campaigned to improve the lives of others, to make a much fairer society and to take care of the countryside. As a direct result of this campaigning much legislation has been introduced.

We at Rhosesmor WI in the past 3 months have:

Enjoyed an informative skin care evening with Jo from Tropics, which left us all feeling silky skinned and relaxed.

Taken part in the Beetle Drive which was fun and competitive even though we are just competing to win a snack bar.

Hosted our guest evening, when we welcomed members from other local WIs. That went down a treat. The buffet, which was prepared by our members, was varied and healthy especially the smoked salmon, cheese scones, cream meringues and trifle. When Fiona from Cariad Gin, our speaker for the evening, had given us an overview of the history of the distillery, she invited us to sample her gin. Most of the members thought it would be very rude not to accept her invitation, and so we enjoyed five different flavours of her gin. The gins were awesome. Needless to say, the evening was enjoyed by all. Maybe I shouldn't say this, but I think some ladies were a little tipsy, not everyone noticed, but I know some looked blurred to me.

Have a good summer and enjoy your Cariad Gin.

Wendy Sigsworth 01352 780394 wendysigsworth@gmail.com

SESIWN COGINIO

Pob Tiwna

Cynhwysion

195g (7 owns a hanner) tun o tiwna mewn dwr halen
195g (7 owns a hanner) tun o fadarch mewn hufen
1 nionyn wedi'i dorri'n fan
Pupur a halen
450g (1pwys) o datws wedi berwi
25g (1owns) menyyn
50g (2owns) caws wedi ratio
1 Llwy fwrdd o lefrith
1 paced o greision plaen

Dull

1. Gwresogwch y popty 190C/Ffan 170C/ Nwy 5.
2. Cymysgwch y tiwna, madarch a'r nionyn. Ychwanegwch bupur a halen a rhowch y cymysgedd mewn dysgl dal gwres.
3. Gwnewch datws stwnsh gyda'r menyyn, Ychwanegwch y caws, llefrith. Cymysgwch yn dda. Gosodwch ar ben y cymysgedd tiwna.
4. Malwch y creision yn fan a'u hysgeintio ar ben y cyfan.
5. Pobwch am 20-25 munud nes iddo frownio.
6. Gweiniwch gyda salad.

Mwynhewch!

COOKING SESSION

Tuna Bake

Ingredients

195g (7½ oz) tuna in brine
195g (7½ oz) can creamed mushrooms
1 onion chopped
Salt & pepper
450g (1 lb) potatoes boiled
25g (1 oz) butter
50g (2 oz) grated cheese
1 tablespoon milk
1 packet plain crisps

Method

1. Preheat oven 190C/Fan 170C/Gas 5.
2. Mix tuna, mushrooms and onion. Add salt and pepper and place in an oven proof dish.
3. Mash potatoes with butter, cheese and milk mix well. Place on top of tuna mixture.
4. Crush the crisps and sprinkle on top.
5. Bake for 20-25 minutes until browned.
6. Serve with a salad.

Enjoy!

Menna Coleclough

Halkyn Mountain Cinema Update - Summer 2026

In March, we showed **The Ballad of Wallis Island** to a full house. It was a nice gentle comedy, with some great folk music on show.



Then in May we screened **Hamnet**, the film version of Maggie O'Farrell's novel, featuring the Oscar-winning performance of Jessie Buckley, and with Paul Mescal as Shakespeare.

It takes a lot of work by our band of dedicated volunteers to set up and run each screening, and due to upcoming volunteer commitments, we're skipping our usual September film-screening. We'll be back on 7th November - put the date in your diary and look out for our online posts in October. We'll have decided what our next film will be by then!

We charge £5 per ticket to help cover our costs - for example, for each film we show, we have to purchase a Single Title Screening Licence, and this costs over £100.



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

At each screening event, refreshments are 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*

Holywell Golf Club

As I write this from inside my office, the sun is shining and we have bright blue skies, but the temperature still isn't quite to my liking due to the relentless strong winds we keep enduring. I am being told though, Spring is with us and Summer is only around the corner. Fingers crossed this is true!!

So, our Summer season has now started. The longer course for the Gents is now being played on a weekly basis, and we have also had some major competitions being won. Congratulations to everyone who has battled through stormy weather, and completed 18 holes: true commitment from some.

The Junior section is also now up and running again, with weekly lessons on a Wednesday between 5pm and 6pm. These lessons are free for all Junior members, and we can cater for any age group. We have around 35 juniors, ranging from age 5 up to 17. It is great to see this section grow, year on year. Membership starts at £61 for the year for Juniors in Primary School and £111 for those in High School. If you need further information, please contact Jackie Henson on juniorsection@holywellgc.co.uk.

The lady section continues to meet every Wednesday for their competitions, and we have some new ladies in our section this year, which is always great.

On Sunday, 19th April we held the Faldo Series Competition. This is a global not-for-profit organi-

sation focused on nurturing young golf talent through competitive amateur events. The organisation offers three levels of inclusive events for young people aged 7 to 25, designed to provide a pathway to professional golf tours. We held the Faldo Futures for juniors aged between 7-12 years. It was a great success with Holywell Golf Club juniors as winners.

Jack Payne came 2nd in his age group of boys 7-8. Romano Cusato was 2nd in the boys 9-10 age group and Faye Hamill was 1st in her age group of girls 7-8.

They now go onto the regional finals which is at Portal next month. Then if they win there, they get to go to the finals at The Belfry in August. We wish them all good luck, well done.

We have some new events in place since the last newsletter. Bonni's Pizza is at the golf club every Tuesday between 5pm – 8pm. You can order your pizza online, collect and take away, or come into the clubhouse to enjoy it with a drink.

Bingo is on every Thursday between 7:30pm – 8:30pm and we have a monthly quiz on the 2nd Wednesday of every month starting at 7:30pm. Everyone is welcome, you don't need to be a member. We do offer Social Membership at £35 for the year, which gives you 20% discount off any bar purchases. If you would like more information, please contact secretary@holywellgc.co.uk.

Billy Jeans Dydd Gwyl Dewi Sant St David's Night Celebrations at Billy Jeans

I'd never been to an evening to celebrate our patron Saint David despite organising one at Halkyn Village Hall about 12 years ago. I booked a lady, who I had seen perform a few months earlier. She sang, played musical instruments, including the harp, and told funny Welsh stories. I'd cooked some Cawl (traditional Welsh stew), and my kitchen smelt of Welsh cakes I had made. Tickets were sold, everything was set to go. On the day before the event it snowed heavily and the forecast for the next day was even worse. We had no alternative to cancel the event. John and I were eating Cawl and Welsh cakes for a fortnight.

Now back to Billy Jean's Gwyl Dewi Sant. Another very entertaining evening was provided by the staff of the café, Cariad Gin and the singers. Folks were generally dressed in something with a Welsh connection – Rugby Shirts, Aprons, Shawls, Skirts, Dresses, Jumpers, Dickie Bow, Hats, they were all there. The Welsh themed food was amazing, a delicious leek and potato soup starter was followed by very tasty and beautifully cooked lamb, roast potatoes and vegetables. Entertaining us were Hazel, who sang mostly in Welsh, whilst Mali chose mostly English songs that had been made popular by Welsh artists. They sang a number of duets, which were beautiful, especially since they had never practiced together. Rob then took to the stage to sing very professionally. It was a great evening and very good value for money. Keep a look out to see what is coming up at Billy's in the future.

Wendy Sigsworth

Ym mis Ebrill eleni, mi ges i gyfle i wireddu breuddwyd - treulio wsnos o wyliau ar Ynys Môn mewn camperfan. Mae teithio, antur a rhyddid wastad wedi apelio ataf a llaw ar fy nghalon, fe wnaeth y profiad yn y camperfan gynnig llawer mwy na hynny! Fe wnaeth Gareth, fy ngwr logi'r camperfan am yr wsnos gan ddyn andros o annwyl o Lysfaen - o Dwrci yn enedigol ond wedi dysgu Cymraeg!! Enw y Camperfan oedd Ifor gan bod y perchennog yn gweithio i Ifor Williams, Rhuthun. Arhoson ni mewn gweryll i oedolion yn unig - sy'n swnio braidd yn amheus, ond ar ôl blynyddoedd o ddysgu doedd rhannu gweryll gyda llwyth o blant ddim yn apelio ataf o gwbl! Roedd tawelwch a llonyddwch y gweryll yn odidog!

Ar y diwrnod cynta, aethon ni ag Ifor i Aberffraw. Oddwn i 'di dotio ar camperfanwyr eraill yn ein fflachio ac yn codi dwylo wrth fynd heibio!! Maer Aberffraw yn cymryd ei enw o Afon ffraw a blynyddoedd yn ôl, roedd Aberffraw yn gartre i brif lys tywysogion Gwynedd. Mae Aberffraw yn cael ei enwi yn y Mabinogion hefyd fel yr ardal lle priodwyd Branwen, ferch Llŷr gyda Matholwch brenin yr Iwerddon. Mae'r lle yn llawn hanes ac yn le hynod o hudolus.

Y peth cynta' i 'neud wedi cyrraedd Aberffraw oedd cal panad a bisged Aberffraw, wrth gwrs!! Bisgedi melys ydy Bisgedi Aberffraw - bisgedi siâp cregyn. Mae rhain yn dyddio nôl i'r trydydd ganrif ar ddeg! Yn ôl bob sôn, cafodd y bisgedi yma eu creu gan Frenin a welodd ei wraig yn dod o hyd i gragen mawr ar y traeth. Wedi sgloffio y bisgedi gyda'n panad - cerddon ni at Eglwys Cwyfan, yr Eglwys fach sydd yng nghanol y môr. Mae'r Eglwys yn dyddio'n nôl i'r deuddegfed ganrif. Yn ystod Pen llanw, mae'r Eglwys yn cael ei wahanu oddiwrth y tir mawr. Pan fydd y llanw ar drai, mae'n bosib cerdded at yr Eglwys - lle rhyfeddol!

Wedi pasio'r Eglwys a thynnu ambell i hun-lun, cerddon ni am y traeth. Lle bynnag y byddai'n mynd ar draeth, mi fyddaf wastad yn sbio am frocmôr - coed a olchir i'r lan gan donnau'r môr. Dwi wedi gwirioni gyda'u lliwiau a'u siapiau. Mi fyddaf hefyd yn chwilita am wydr y môr. Mae rhain yn hynod o ddel. Pe taswn i'n ddigon medrus, mi faswn i'n trio creu gemwaith allan ohonynt!! Prosiect falla at flwyddyn nesa!!

Erbyn hyn, roedden ni gyd yn llwgu felly, nol at Ifor, y Camperfan am bîns ar dôst!! Treulion ni gweddill y diwrnod yn ymlacio tra'n gwylio'r haul yn machlud. Perffaith. Diolch i Ifor am wylia gwyh!!

Cornel y Plant

Twm a moi

Mae Twm a Moi yn ddau gi bach sydd wedi mopio eu penna'n lân gyda clwb pêl-droed Wrecsam. Mae nhw'n mynd i bob gêm adra yn y cae Râs! Bob dydd, mae'r ddau wrth eu boddau yn ymarfer eu sgiliau pêl-droed yn y cae. Breuddwyd y ddau yw chwarae i Wrecsam. Mae Twm yn gweld ei hun fel gol-geidwad gan ei fod yn gallu neidio'n uchel. Mae Moi, ar y llaw arall yn gweld ei hun fel amddiffynwr gan ei fod yn barod i daclo pan sy angen.

Mae ffrindia Twm a Moi yn gwybod eu bod wedi gwirioni gyda clwb pêl droed Wrecsam. Tra'n mynd am dro gyda'u pêl a'u chwiban ar y mynydd byddai'r defaid yn bloeddio arnynt -

'Pasia'r bêl inni, Twm a Moi'

Ond, rhedeg heibio nhw mae Twm a Moi!!

Mae Nedw, y ceffyl yn gwybod bod Twm a Moi yn caru clwb pêl droed Wrecsam.

'Pasia'r bêl inni, Twm a Moi'

Ond, rhedeg heibio Nedw mae Twm a Moi.

Mae'r cwningod hefyd yn gwybod bod Twm a Moi yn caru clwb pêl droed Wrecsam.

'Pasia'r bêl inni, Twm a Moi'

Ond, gwibio heibio mae Twm a Moi gyda'u pêl nes iddynt gyrraedd adre! Ac yn eu disgwyl i gael gêm iawn yw'r ieir! Mae nhw mor chwim ar eu traed - yr ieir yn erbyn Twm a Moi!!

Mae nhw'n treulio oria yn chwarae yn erbyn ei gilydd a'r iâr i wylia yw Hatti - sgoriwr anhygoel, ond mae Twm yn glyfar ac yn gwybod bob tro i ba ochr mae Hatti am fynd gyda'r bêl. Fel arfer, Twm a Moi sy'n ennill ac ar ddiwedd pob gêm, mae pawb yn sbio mlaen at yr un nesa!! Gan obeithio un diwrnod, mi fydd Twm a Moi yn chwarae i'r clwb gora'n y byd!!

Nia Williams

Kip's Backyard Ultra

Last year when local vet Joe Angell mentioned to Dafydd and Rachael Evans of Kilford Farm Denbigh that he was interested in doing a backyard ultra, little did he know what would unfold!

After a little planning, and big help from the community, including Dynamic Fitness Ruthin and local running club, The Denbigh Harriers, on 28th March, in crisp, bright, but very windy weather conditions, 68 runners set off on the inaugural Kip's Backyard Ultra. Incidentally, Kip is Kilford Farm's handsome Welsh Collie dog.

A backyard ultra is an endurance race which is getting more and more popular. It is a "last person standing" event where runners must complete a 4.1 mile loop every hour, starting on the hour, indefinitely. The race continues until after only one runner remains to complete a final lap, while all others are marked "DNF" (Did Not Finish).

The course was a figure of eight configuration, which meant good interaction with spectators throughout. Making use of the farm tracks, fields, lanes and astroturf cow tracks, the course wound its way around Kip's backyard, offering spectacular views of the Vale of Clwyd, and the Clwydian range, with Moel Famau front and centre.

There were lots of locals in attendance as well as runners from further afield. There was a great showing from the local running club - the Denbigh Harriers, with 18 running, and 19 other club members volunteering as marshals, safety team, and support. Many people achieved personal bests beating previous achievements by large distances. One runner having run a half marathon previously, came away well into ultra territory, with 10 yards and wondering if they could do more.

Crews were busy between laps sorting out kit, clothing, and food, preparing things for their runner for the pause between yards. Notable supplies included a bottle of champagne, a homemade quiche, a croissant consumed on the start line, fantastic pizza hand cooked onsite by Doughson's Pizza, and endless artisan coffee brewed by Brewtini, endless that is until everyone drank so much that they ran out of beans!

There were so many amazing volunteers, each contributing in their own way, either through blowing the whistle in the freezing cold, cleaning the toilets, putting out glowsticks at night, or keeping the energy high. Thank you so much to all of them, the race could not have worked without them.

Slowly, but surely, runners started to hang up their bibs, each reaching a personal limit. The "did not finish" (DNF) bell was heard clanging and each runner received their badge for taking part. And then, the dark clouds that had been building opened peppering the field with large hailstones as the one minute whistle blew. Several runners decided enough was enough at that point and the depleted field shuffled off to a chorus of cries of pain due to the hail.

Various milestones came and went, with a continued attrition rate at 10 yards, 12 yards, and 15 yards. Soon there were just six runners left winding their way round and into the night, which was beautiful, starlit, and still.

Victoria Obree set out on her 20th yard but came back early, tapping out with 19, followed on the next yard by Stuart Obree finishing with 20. Jason Jones-Williams made it to the starting corral to start yard 22, only to hop back across the line and tap out with 21. Joe Angell then ran one more yard with 22, leaving Liam Kelly and Vincent Baker to battle it out to the end. Which they did do in fine style. The second day passed and they entered the second night, with some signs of fatigue setting in, but still cracking jokes, and having something to say to the marshals and their crews. Positioning themselves as close to the corral as possible they turned up and got the job done. Finally, Liam was unable to make it back in time on yard 36 so Vincent Baker took the win.

Kip's Backyard Ultra (Cont'd)

All the proceeds from the race went to the DPJ Foundation, which does valuable work in rural communities supporting people with mental health issues. Agriculture carries one of the highest rates of suicide, and the DPJ Foundation aims to break down the stigma that surrounds poor mental health and provide support services for those in rural communities, when they need it.

Good mental health can be fostered through many avenues, including physical activity, and many people find it easier to talk to one other, whilst doing something. The only physical remnants of the race were two parallel tracks, representing all the shared conversations had. The money raised came to £2,240.00. For more information visit thedpjfoundation.co.uk. Their helpline is 0800 587 4262.

The total number of yards completed by the field was: 705! This equates to approximately 2,937.735 miles or 4,727.826 kilometres.

The Winner- Vincent Baker - with Kip



Councillor's Update Summer 2026

As your local Councillor, I'm pleased to share some positive updates on road improvements across our community.

Many of you will have noticed that the road from Halkyn to Windmill Junction has now been resurfaced, along with the stretch past the Britannia Inn. These improvements have been much needed, and I'm glad to see them completed. I have also been able to secure patching work on some of the pot-holes along the Halkyn to Rhes-y-Cae road. While this is a step in the right direction, I will continue to press for the remaining sections to be properly repaired.

The junction with the Mold-Denbigh road remains a concern. While I have received agreement that resurfacing will take place, the Council has decided to take this opportunity to re-model the junction due to the number of serious accidents there in recent years. Although this means a delay, the long-term aim is to make the junction significantly safer for everyone.

On a more positive note, it was fantastic to see such a strong turnout at the recent Brynford litter pick. A considerable amount of rubbish was collected, and it was encouraging to see so many residents taking pride in keeping our area clean and tidy.

As the weather improves, I have also received an increasing number of complaints about off-road vehicles on the mountain. This is a persistent issue, and I would urge all residents to report any incidents to the police by calling 101. Establishing a clear pattern of anti-social behaviour is essential if we are to secure increased police resources to tackle the problem effectively.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and for helping to look after our community.

If you wish to contact me regarding any local concerns, please email me at

simon.jones@flintshire.gov.uk.

*Cllr Simon Jones
Flintshire County Council, Brynford
and Halkyn Ward*

Wern Road Resident's View on the Tiger Tim Planning Application

As many in the area will know, Tiger Tim has submitted a new planning application proposing a significant expansion of their firelighter manufacturing site. As residents living directly opposite the factory on Wern Road in Rhosesmor, we wanted to share our perspective on what this could mean for both ourselves and the wider village.

Most of us recognise that Tiger Tim is a long-standing local employer; we knew the location and proximity when we purchased our homes and we're absolutely not opposed to modernisation or sensible improvements to the factory. A successful business bringing jobs and investment into the village is something to be valued. But the scale and nature of what is currently proposed raises some serious concerns that we feel the community should be aware of. Unfortunately, Tiger Tim has done no community engagement to discuss these changes with residents, so a community group was formed by local residents to improve awareness and discuss what was being proposed.

Tiger Tim's plans include a much bigger, three-story industrial building positioned extremely close to the homes on Wern Road, with a hard border on the car park/road boundary. As many of you will know from walking down it; our road is narrow, without pavements, and already struggles with existing traffic. The proposal would **narrow parts of the road** further and the introduction of a hard boundary could potentially make it impossible for wide loads like tractors and the school bus to pass if the residents' cars are parked outside their homes as they regularly are and are entitled to be. We don't believe adequate modelling has been done on the new entry and exit paths in this instance. Indeed, the plans incorrectly show our lane width to be the same size as the main road, and apparently the road runs straight through our house. Who knew?

This has clear implications for the **safety** of children, dog walkers and all other residents who use the road daily. It's already bad enough at 7pm when all the staff emerge as one, wheelspin off the gravel and speed to the Red Lion junction (you can set your watch by the sound of engines revving). As an alternative, we would suggest the car park access be changed to the main entrance, along with the rest of the site traffic, as this would make Wern Road a lot safer.

Then there is the issue of **fire risk**. The factory manufactures highly flammable materials but currently stores them off-site. The new layout would bring the storage of very large quantities of these materials in-house. Much larger volumes of combustible stock being stored close to residential properties, affecting not just our homes on Wern Road but also the pensioners bungalows adjacent to the northern edge of the site, is a major concern for us. The large three-story unit with offices proposed by Wern Road is designed to hold 992 pallets of firelighters, each pallet holding roughly 38,400 individual firelighter blocks, for a total of just over 38 million firelighters stored very close to our homes. The potential combined energy stored in this number of firelighters could be the equivalent of 7-12 Kilotons of TNT, albeit released slowly as a fire column should it catch light, not an explosive. The plans also include two other Finished Goods storage units close to the pensioners' bungalows. The site has experienced major fires in the past where houses had to be doused with water to save them (see photos in Rhosesmor Village Hall if you're interested) and those fires were without the proposed storage of large quantities of finished goods on site. Evacuation and emergency access to/from Wern Road would be challenging now, let alone after the plans to narrow it. While we understand there will be business reasons behind this change, we believe that any expansion must seriously consider the safety of those living just metres away.

Finally, the **scale** of the proposed building is far out of keeping with the surrounding homes. Rhosesmor is made up of bungalows and two-storey houses; a 40 foot black industrial block would dominate the landscape and change the character of this part of our village. The multi-story offices would **overlook directly into some of our bedrooms and bathrooms** that are currently private, including by looking down onto Velux windows. Personally, I would rather not be able to wave to the office staff from my shower, and I am certain this would not be permitted if it were a residential neighbour's extension plans.

We're not against Tiger Tim growing or improving their facilities. We simply believe that any development should be proportionate, safe, and respectful of the residents who live alongside it. Many of us would welcome a revised proposal that addresses these concerns and modernises the site, without overshadowing the village or increasing risks to our community. Indeed, any show of willingness from Tiger Tim to meaningfully engage with residents would be welcomed.

We hope this helps fellow residents understand why so many of us on Wern Road and the surrounding areas have raised concerns, and why alongside our local councillors Fran and Simon, we're asking for a more balanced and safer approach to the site's future development.

New Deadline for Comments: Tiger Tim have just re-submitted their application with some changes. The window for new comments on this will be **open until 18th May** and we encourage everyone to have a read through for themselves. You can leave comments on Flintshire's planning portal or by emailing Mark Harris at planning.consultation@flintshire.gov.uk quoting reference **FUL/001055/25**.



Site Overview and West View

In both of these plans Wern Road appears to run directly through houses, front gardens and porches and is drawn wider than the main road.

The modelling for vehicles turning into and out of the new car park entrances appears to have been done based on these inaccurate drawings.



Pentre Halkyn Village Hall



Essential maintenance work on the roof and guttering has now been completed, helping to protect the building for the future. We are currently progressing our charity registration, which will enable us to apply for grants to support internal improvements and energy efficiency works.

The aim is to bring parts of the building more up to date and make it an even more welcoming and comfortable space for the community to use. We are keen to see the centre well used, so please do consider it for your groups, parties or events.

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: **07484 107620**
or email: pentrehalkynbook@gmail.com

Councillor Update from **FRAN**

Over the past few months, my work as County Councillor for Brynford and Halkyn has focused on roads and transport, planning matters, and continuing to represent residents on the issues that matter locally.



Hendre Quarry—Road Closure Update

I have received a further update from Tarmac regarding the ongoing slip remediation works near Hendre Quarry.

The Phase 1 drainage works have now started. These are intended to intercept surface water and groundwater, helping to reduce the pressure contributing to the slip. Tarmac expects this phase to take around six to eight weeks to complete.

Phase 2 remediation works can be progressed as permitted development, subject to prior approval. Tarmac is now preparing that prior approval submission.

The second phase will involve longer-term stabilisation works, including the installation of column piles into the limestone, large quarry boulders or gabion baskets at the toe of the slope, and a re-graded rockfill embankment behind the piled wall. These works are intended to stabilise the slope and protect the public highway.

Tarmac has advised that the project remains on track for completion in October 2026. I appreciate that this has been a very frustrating and lengthy closure for residents.

Planning Applications: Tiger Tim

I attended a site meeting with the planning officer, alongside Simon, to discuss community concerns about the scale of the proposed development at Tiger Tim.

Specific concerns were raised about the size and scale of the new storage facilities, the positioning of the kerosene tanks, and the potential impact that increased firelighter storage could have on the village in the event of a serious incident. We also raised ongoing concerns about land contamination and ecological impact, as well as highways concerns, particularly increased HGV movements through the village and access to the site for workers, deliveries and operational traffic.

Caulmert have now submitted revised plans in response to the planning consultation responses. Thank you to everyone who submitted comments on the original proposals. You can still have your say on the revised plans, and comments will be taken into account until the application reaches Planning Committee.

I do want to acknowledge that Tiger Tim is a valued local employer, and nobody wants to see the business leave the area. However, the key question is whether bringing all products, storage and logistics onto this site, when some of that activity currently operates from a separate location, means the business has outgrown what a small village location can reasonably accommodate.

Please do let me know your thoughts, particularly if you have concerns you would like reflected as the application progresses.

School Transport

I have been part of Flintshire's School Transport Task and Finish Group, which has been meeting monthly since September to review parts of the council's school transport policy.

The group looked at a wide range of issues, including post-16 transport, Welsh medium transport, denominational school transport, benefit entitlement, vacant spare seats on school buses, and the rules around transport to the nearest appropriate school.

One issue I spoke strongly on was the use of vacant spare seats on school buses. For families in rural areas with no suitable public bus service, school transport is not just about getting children to school. It can make the difference between a parent being able to work or not. Where there are empty seats on existing school buses, I believe the council should do everything it can to make them available.

The group also recommended consulting on how the "nearest appropriate school" rule is applied. At present, this can be based on exact distance travelled, which can split village cohorts between different secondary schools. I believe catchment areas should be considered as part of this, so that children from the same village are not unnecessarily split up. This is particularly relevant for the communities of Rhosesmor, Halkyn and Rhes-y-Cae.

At the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee, the group's recommendations were unanimously supported to go forward to Cabinet for public consultation.

Unfortunately, Cabinet has not yet agreed to progress the recommendations to public consultation. This is disappointing, as the Task and Finish Group worked carefully through the evidence and the recommendations had cross-party support at scrutiny.

Local Road

A significant amount of work has been carried out on our rural roads this April, and I would like to thank our Streetscene Area Supervisor for continuing to make improvements to our communities despite very limited resources.

The resurfacing of the Brit and Halkyn to Rhes-y-Cae stretch has now been completed and the results are excellent. It is good to see proper resurfacing work carried out where it is badly needed. The Pothole Pro has also been used on the road to Rhes-y-Cae, helping deliver more durable repairs on some of our rural routes.

As part of a Liberal Democrat amendment to this year's budget, we secured an additional £122,000 from reserves for rural road repairs across the county. This was aimed at improving road conditions in areas where maintenance is often harder to prioritise.

There is still much more to do, but it is encouraging to see progress being made.

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



HOLYWELL HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

We are still on a high at the great success we had at our second History Fair on Sunday, 12th April.

To have a first successful one was beyond our dreams, but to repeat it this year, and have an even better response was unbelievable.

New representatives were there this year - we met old friends and made new ones. Becky Gittins - our MP arrived, and she and her husband spent so much time chatting with all of the representatives of the groups. Her sweet, little, five month old baby slept through the whole thing, but judging by the passion her parents have for our shared history - maybe she will be a future member of our group.

The response was probably due to the success of last year's, but definitely due to the waves of publicity our secretary Donna put out with her 10 day countdown. And it was good that there was no wind when we were putting up the banners!

We made a substantial monetary profit, but that was nothing like the goodwill, which was obvious throughout the day.

We must give a huge thanks to the leisure centre staff for allowing us to host it - for setting up the room, and for being so attentive to our needs throughout the day. Thanks too to Rosie's cafe for opening up for our visitors to enjoy refreshments. Also thanks to all of the people who came to see us and chat - we had so many people through the doors.

Our next venture is to have monthly talks - thanks to Paula at the library who has offered us the library free of charge, and with a member of staff on hand to help us. I am currently compiling a list of speakers, so if anybody knows of anyone they could recommend, please get in touch with me.

Holywell Reminiscence Group is five years old next month - it began on 21st June 2021 with just a handful of people and now despite some setbacks we are thriving and happy and continue to meet every week at the Leisure Centre, 10am - 12pm, or whenever you need to leave. Just walk in and you will find a warm welcome.

Also, don't forget our sixty question general knowledge quiz, with a picture round and Dingbats - hosted by our very own Bob, who is not just a quiz master, but an entertainer. Prizes are small but the fun is great and all of that and a cuppa and biscuits - for just £2 for the room hire. No need to be on a team - teams form on the day. Every Thursday 1pm – 3pm.

Our contacts are on our Facebook page, our website and our Family History Hub with Donna, who has decades of experience in family history research.



Our merchandise is also for sale at Martin's Nexus pop up shop in Post Office Lane.

You may also email me on andreadakin112@btinternet.com, or phone me on 01352 711240 for a friendly chat.

We all hope you enjoy the lovely summer months to come. Thank you for your continuing interest in our group.

Andrea Yarnell Dakin



Ysgol Rhos Helyg News Report Summer 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 the Summer Term.

Primary School of the Year



We are extremely proud to receive the accolade of Primary School of the Year.

Ysgol Rhos Helyg has been recognised for its commitment to environmental education and wildlife conservation, and has been named Primary School of the Year at the Leader Education Awards 2026.

Ysgol Rhos Helyg, received the honour in recognition of its efforts to promote sustainability, environmental awareness and hands-on learning for pupils.

The Leader Education Awards celebrate the achievements of pupils, teachers and schools across Wrexham and Flintshire, recognising those who go above and beyond to inspire young people and support education in the region.

Ysgol Rhos Helyg has demonstrated a strong commitment to protecting the environment, recently earning its fourth Eco Schools Platinum Award for its work promoting sustainability and wildlife conservation.

The school's Eco Council and Eco Club have played a key role in leading these initiatives, proudly showcasing their projects and achievements to visiting assessors.

The success of the school comes down to the commitment shown by staff, governors and parents and the attention given to ensuring pupils receive the best education possible.

Community Café

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

Community Café Dates

22nd May
19th June
17th July

School Eisteddfod

Our annual Eisteddfod was a great success with all the pupils singing and reciting on stage. Once again Ysgol Maes Garmon provided our Judge.

The Art and Craft showcased the pupils talents and provided a lovely backdrop to proceedings.



Glan Llyn

Pupils in Years 5 and 6 thoroughly enjoyed their residential visit to Glan Llyn. They had an opportunity to practice their Welsh Language skills whilst completing numerous adventurous activities.



Comic Relief

Red Nose Day in school was full of fun and laughter! The children looked fantastic in their outfits, and the cake sale was a huge hit-lots of tasty treats enjoyed by all.



Visit to Mold Police Station

Pupils in Year 6 attended a workshop about Anti Social Behaviour hosted by the Police as part of an Education Programme.



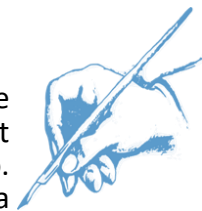
Gardening

It is a busy time of year at school with pupils growing their own vegetables.

Watering the produce is an exciting job.



Farmer's Diary



Farming isn't always easy when the weather and animals are usually at odds with everything we try to do. This year, we decided to lamb a month later, (Hayden's idea, not mine). We had more room in the sheds as we had purchased fewer cattle, a decision made as we had less silage as a result of the 2005 dry summer. The extra shed space enabled us to hold the ewes and lambs inside for 5, 6, even 7 days before turning out, the grass was already growing well and the weather was really kind to us.

Many parts of the UK and even as close as North Lancashire and Snowdonia had reports of over 35 consecutive days of rain up to mid-February, but here we seemed to miss the worst of it, although it was very wet and sleety in the middle of February. There certainly weren't many days when we had to look for dry patches to feed the sheep on the field.

Lambing itself went particularly well with not many serious problems. With an upgraded camera system, I was able to observe much greater detail from the comfort of my bed at two o'clock in the morning. Wendy, however, thought she was sleeping with the sheep when she was awakened by the bleating ewes she heard over the camera's sound system. The lambing results were very much as predicted from the scanning forecast. By the first three weeks we had just over 400 lambs in the sheds and field. We then had a break from lambing until 10th April and as I write this, there are just four left to lamb, and one has just lambed right in front of the window.

Whilst all was fairly plain-sailing on the farming front, on the 28th February, Mr Trump decided he was going to attack Iran and very quickly many of our input costs shot up over-night. Road fuel seems to have gone up by about 40p a litre, and for some reason tractor diesel went up by 70p a litre, but at least all fuels are still readily available. Fertiliser, on the other hand, which was £310 a ton, shot up to almost £500 a ton and availability is becoming difficult because the main ingredient Urea, from which fertiliser is made, is sourced from countries around the Gulf and Ukraine, so that has been a double whammy. Fortunately, our fertiliser was on order and was delivered in early March, at the price agreed back in January. Whether fertiliser will be available and at what price later in the year, we will have to wait and see. Yet again, we are totally reliant on imports, while our own one time fertiliser plants at Ince, Severnside and Billingham are now closed. At the moment, we have plenty of manure to fall back on as a substitute for fertiliser for the rest of the year.

John Sigsworth



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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:

Halkyn: 1 x Anti social behaviour/1 x Criminal damage/2 x Vehicle crime/1 x Violence

Halkyn (The Catch): 1 x Anti social behaviour/1 x Vehicle crime/Criminal damage/2 x Violence

Pentre Halkyn: 1 x Anti social behaviour/1 x Public order/1 x Vehicle crime/1 x Violence

Rhes-Y-Cae: No offences reported

Rhosesmor: 2 x Other theft

Community Award - 2026

The Halkyn Community Council have issued a Public Notice in relation to the 2026 – 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 website whereby the application form can also be downloaded at: <https://halkyn.org.uk> (Public notices & Financial page).

The Community Council seek nominations from residents who reside within the Halkyn Council area (Halkyn, Moel Y Crio, Pentre Halkyn, Rhes-Y-Cae, Rhosesmor, The Nant, The Wern & The Windmill). 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. The closing date for nominations is 12 Noon on Monday, 13th July 2026.

Request for Bus Shelter in Halkyn

Following a further request for the provision of a bus shelter in Halkyn (opposite the Bluebell Inn) - County Councillor Simon Jones has sought an update from the Flintshire County Transportation Officer. Councillor Jones has also received a bus shelter request to be sited in Pentre Halkyn.

Concerns received from residents

(1) Report of fly tipping in the area of Pant Quarry, Halkyn. The Clerk advised Council that it is not in this Community Council's remit to report fly tipping. This is a criminal offence and is required to be reported by the person, or persons who discover the tipping, as the discoverer could be a potential witness in court. However, the fly-tipping is not on County Council adopted highway. Street Scene have forwarded the details to the Grosvenor Estate. (2) Concern has been expressed by a resident in relation to the increase in off-road biking in a number of areas, and in particular, in the woods at the top of Rhes-Y-Cae. The Police have advised that these types of offences should be reported to the North Wales Police by dialling 101 or by their web site.

Request for additional street lighting in area of Rhosesmor Children's Play Area and B5123 Road in Rhosesmor

The Community Council received a request for additional street lighting in Rhosesmor, where after a sub-Committee of Council Members visited, and provided their report to Council. The Council agreed not to install additional street lighting lanterns. In reaching their decision, the Council took into consideration, the following after visits had been made to the area during daylight and darkness: Adjacent to the play area in Northop Road, there was only one suitable wooden pole that is sited in-between the current two lanterns in this area. If this wooden electricity pole was utilised, whilst it would create additional illumination, this could also cause anti-social behaviour, including excessive illumination as the current two lanterns are in close proximity. The lanterns sited on the B5123 Rhosesmor Village Road are evenly spaced.

There are no electricity wooden poles along the B5123 road that additional lanterns could be erected on. Therefore, additional lanterns would be of the metal column type and together with the underground wiring, connection fees and new lantern columns, each lantern would be cost prohibitive for the Council. A number of Councillors stated, that they would not allow their children and grandchildren to use the play area after darkness.

Flintshire County Council (Street Scene)

The following concerns have been reported to Street Scene: (1) Pot holes: B5123 Road with junction at A541 in Rhydymwyn (2) Damaged sign: Northop Road, Rhosesmor – the sign indicating Children’s Play Area has been damaged (3) Pot holes and damaged road which requires upgrading: Middle Mill Lane, Pant Y Gof (4) Pot holes: Halkyn to Rhes-Y-Cae Road (some dangerous) (5) 30mph speed limit sign damaged: Near Black Lion Farm. Rhes-Y-Cae – sign lying in roadside ferns (6) 40mph/National mph sign damaged: Bryn Tirion Road and Near The Hall, Lygan Y Wern (7) Damaged sign (knocked over) Top of Middle Mill Lane and opposite The Barracks, Pant Y Gof (8) Damaged barrier (with sharp edges): At The Barracks, Middle Mill Lane, Pant y Gof (9) Gully blocked causing flooding: Jerusalem Hill, Rhosesmor. Gully cleared in late 2025, but blocked again (10) Request for sycamore tree to be removed: In Northop Road, Rhosesmor - due to light blocking a private property (Referred to County Tree Officer) (11) Non-collection of bins: Middle Mill Road. Pant Y Gof. Collections missed on numerous occasions (County Councillor Simon Jones to take forward) (12) Parking concerns in Buxton Lane, Pentre Halkyn (Councillor Simon Jones advised that County Highways say it is the responsibility of the North Wales Police. The Police have refused to take any action) (13) B5123 Road in Bryn Alun area: 2 x grids blocked (14) B5123 Road in Bryn Alun area: Some pot holes have been repaired, with others still outstanding (15) Pot holes and damaged road which requires upgrading: Middle Mill Lane, Pant Y Gof (This was reported previously (16) Rhosesmor to the Green area in Northop: Pot holes (17) Halkyn to Rhes-Y-Cae Road: Some pot holes have been repaired, with others still outstanding – from the bridge area (This was also reported previously (18) Bryn Tirion Road – at Lleprog Lane. The verge has partly collapsed following a lorry tipping over. The area was filled with soil which has compacted. The area is difficult to negotiate, when two cars are passing, without one vehicle going into the dip. Request for area to be inspected (19) Bryn Tirion Road: Tremendous amount of litter – request for a litter pick.

Planning Applications

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

(1) Application number: FUL/001040/25 for proposed North/north-west extension to the quarry to extract additional limestone reserves, and the associated dismantling, re-construction and repositioning of the existing overburden mounds, erection of internal crib walls, widening of existing access, relocation of the internal haul road, and the permanent diversion of sections of public footpaths, at Pant Y Pwll Dwr Quarry, Pentre Halkyn/Brynford (2) Application number: FUL/000040/26 – for proposed removal of glazed conservatory and erection of 2 storey extension, at Fernside Cottage, Nant Road, Pentre Halkyn (3) Application number: FUL/000072/26 – for proposed rear extension & alterations to existing dwelling, at Spring Cottage, Nant Road, Pentre Halkyn (4) Planning application number: FUL/000111/26 – For proposed conversion of existing barn to form ancillary accommodation to dwelling. Dwelling - two storey side extension, single storey rear extension, single storey extension to replace agricultural building, dormers to existing roof, porch to front elevation, at Tan y Foel, Rhes-y-Cae (5) Application number: FUL/000226/26 – Proposed erection of a single-storey detached bungalow to be used as a residential annexe ancillary to the main dwelling at Bryn Haul, Moel y Crio (6) Application number: FUL/000111/26 - Amendments to submitted application, for proposed conversion of existing barn to form ancillary accommodation to dwelling. Dwelling - Two storey side extension, single storey rear extension, single storey extension to replace agricultural building, dormers to existing roof, porch to front elevation, at Tan Y Foel, Rhes-Y-Cae.

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

Planning Decisions

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

(1) Application number: DET/000925/25 - Approval of Details Reserved by Condition 23, 24, 25 & 30, at Aberdo Quarry, Buxton Lane, Pentre Halkyn. Withdrawn (2) Application number: LDC/000716/25 – Certificate of Lawfulness Sec 191, that The Chalet sited on the southwest corner of the plot at Ashford Farm, Caeau Gleision Lane, Halkyn, has been used as a dwellinghouse since 1996. Refused

Donations and Financial Support

The Halkyn Community Council have provided the following financial assistance since the last edition of the Halkyn Mountain News: £350.00 - Caerwys Agricultural Show (annual grant to support the only agricultural show in Flintshire)/£200.00 - Llangollen Eisteddfod (annual grant to support cultural arts in Wales).

Phillip Parry

Clerk to Halkyn Community Council

Tel: 01352 720547

E-mail: clerk@halkyn.org.uk

Web Site: www.halkyn.org.uk



Cyngor Cymuned Helygain Halkyn Community Council Community Award - 2026

The Community Council wish 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 forms are available to download from the Council's website at: 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, 13th July 2026.

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

Children's Summer Writing Competition Results

And now the news you've been waiting for (big drum roll!), yes, the winner of Halkyn Mountain News' summer writing competition.

Before announcing the winner, we would like to say a very big thank you to all entrants. The standard was very impressive. If you weren't a winner this time don't worry - there will be another chance to enter in our next edition. Please do not be discouraged and do try again as you may be a winner next time. The results are as follows:

First Prize Winner: Daisy Powell - Year 6 Rhos Helyg CP

The runners up are: Harriet Jones - Year 5 Lixwm CP and Emily Cawley - Year 5 Rhos Helyg CP

A big thank you to the pupils of both Lixwm and Rhos Helyg for their entries.



Harriet Jones - Year 5 - Lixwm CP
Joint Second Prize Winner



Daisy Powell - Year 6 - First Prize Winner
Emily Cawley - Year 5 - Joint Second Prize Winner
Ysgol Rhos Helyg CP

Children's Autumn Writing Competition

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

Competition Details:

Our theme for the next competition follows the seasons and will be Autumn. You may need to stretch your imagination a bit to picture the trees turning golden or to remember the sound of the leaves rustling but see what you can do! You might be thinking of fireworks, bonfires the start of darker nights - don't mention the big guy with a white beard all dressed in red though (far too soon for that despite what the shops might make you think).

There are great prizes on offer and writing is good fun and gets your brain going so please have a go!

Deadline for entries:

20th July 2026

Prizes:

Winner: £50 Book Token/Voucher

Runners-up: £25 Book Token/Voucher each

How to enter:

Entries are invited from Lixwm, Rhos Helyg and Brynford Primary Schools. Please submit your entry either direct to us at newsforhmn@gmail.com or via your local school.

Good luck!



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

Sunday 10th May 10am – 2pm Lino Print Art Workshop with local artist Catherine Jones

Tuesday 12th May Coffee Morning 10.30am - 12.30pm. In aid of Village Hall funds

Tuesday 2nd June Coffee Morning 10.30am - 12.30pm. In aid of Village Hall funds

Saturday 25th July 10am-2pm Acrylic Art Workshop with Catherine Jones

Saturday 12th September & Sunday 13th September - Clwydian Creatives Art Trail

Previous Events

Charity Bingo Evening in aid of NEWCIS - Friday 17th April

As always, this was a popular event, and everyone seemed to enjoy their evening! A big thank you to Barbara, our fantastic Bingo caller, Laura from NEWCIS who shared information about the vital role that the organisation plays in the local community, and to everyone who came along and supported us. In total, the evening raised £290.50 for NEWCIS, a great local charity providing a lifeline for carers of all ages and backgrounds, and providing support, information and guidance to anyone in a caring role.

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





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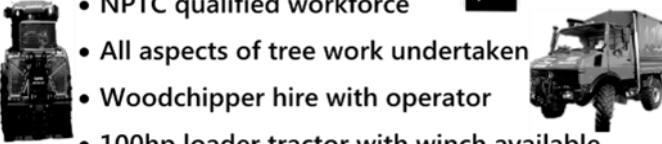
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Facebook - Adam Paxton - Darts

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