



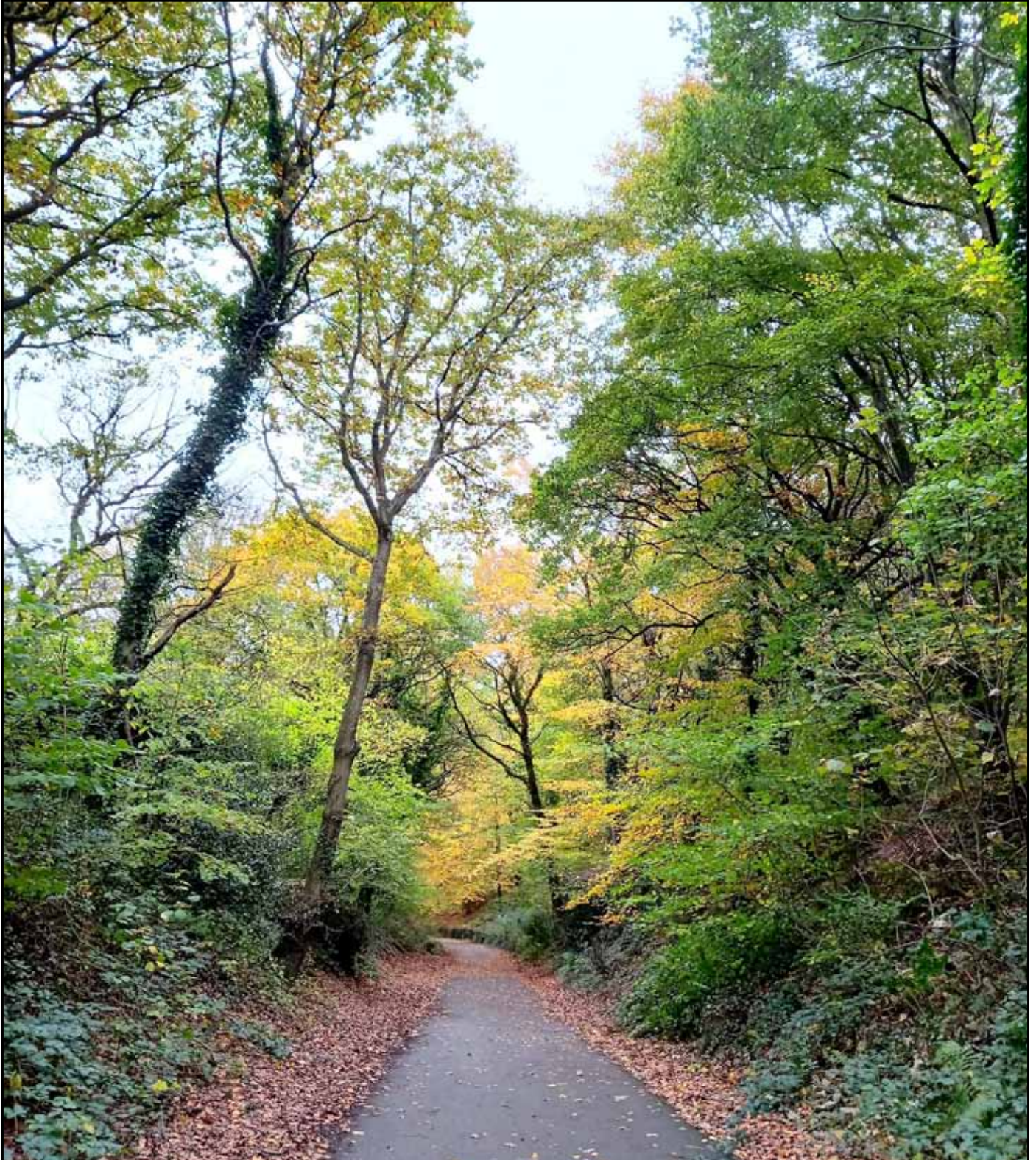
THE FIVE VILLAGES CHRONICLE

CRONICL Y PUM PENTREF

ISSUE NO. 151
RHIFYN 151

AUTUMN (SEPTEMBER) 2024
HYDREF (MEDI) 2024

PRICELESS
AMHRISIADWY



HOLYWELL AREA COMMUNITY MUSEUM (Mike Jones)

At the beginning of the month the town of Holywell and Greenfield were visited by the Wales in Bloom judge. On the day the sun was shining, and all the flowers were blooming. The Museum mounted an outdoor display featuring an effigy of St. Winefride decorated with knitted flowers designed and organised by the Knit and Natter Group together with bollard toppers. In addition, we also planted up the Point of Ayr Colliery pony feeding trough with a great assortment of flowering plants. The judge visited the museum and was extremely complimentary in our community endeavours together with the fantastic displays. Well done everyone.

The café renovation has finally started and promises to become a real asset in the museum with improved seating and facilities. We are also hoping to add to the menu to provide a wider choice. During the refurbishment the café will remain open as usual.

Over the past month we have received a number of donations for which we are always exceedingly grateful as they help to tell the history of Holywell and the area. One such item is a stone quern which would have been used for hand grinding a variety of grains. We have yet to determine its age, but historical evidence shows that querns were in use at least 10,000 years ago. From the same donation came a 1/3-pint milk bottle from the Stamford Dairy, Holywell; many of us I am sure will remember their school milk. Beautifully lettered up the bottle proclaims, 'milk is guaranteed farm fresh from tuberculin tested cows.'

In the next few weeks, we are hoping to launch the Holywell Area Community Museum website. This will enable us to garner a wider reach and provide information on many aspects that are currently lacking.

This year marks the closure of the Holywell Town Branch railway which ran from Holywell Junction on the main Chester to Holyhead Railway. We will be aiming to put a display on covering the history of this much mourned line ready for September. If anyone has railway signs, paperwork, lamps or any related item we would be grateful if we could loan them for the display.

Finally thank you to everyone who visits the museum; we are so grateful for your help and support in whatever form it may take. If you require any information, please phone the museum on 01352 217170 Jodie Bennett (Manager).

COVER PICTURE

An autumn walk. Thanks to Melanie Wallis.

Printed by W. O. Jones (Printers) Ltd.
Llangefni, North Wales, LL77 7JA

We Need Your Help



FIVE VILLAGES CHRONICLE

- 150 NOT OUT!

It is a well-known cricket objective and not often achieved but I'm sure, often hoped for, by Carmel Cricket Club!

However, your Five Villages Chronicle achieved just that with the last edition, number 150. The Flintshire Leader reported on this achievement in its online edition.

The Leader showed the cover pages of the very first issue and the 150th to illustrate just how the Chronicle has progressed over the years. The Flintshire Leader article went on to trace the origin of the magazine when Whitford Community Council called a public meeting to set up the Five Villages Chronicle in an effort to bind together the community spread over the five villages within its area. The original Editor was Terry Ireland who with 'local reporters' Len Jones, Jane Pope, Frank Roberts, and Terry Withington launched the Chronicle in 1987. Terry is still actively involved, and we now rely on news and articles sent in by local contributors.

Your Chronicle is produced by a committee of just 7 volunteers, some of whom were actively involved in the very first edition some 37 years ago. Apart from the Editor, they cover the roles of Secretary, Treasurer, Advertising Manager, Distribution Manager and, of course, a Chairperson.

We are always in need of 'new blood' to join the committee in order to ensure the continuation of the much admired 'Five Villages Chronicle'. That need is particularly pressing at this time when the Secretary and Advertising roles are being covered by the same person. As in Cricket, the very next ball could see the end of a remarkable innings!

We are in particular need of someone to join us with a view to taking on the role of Secretary.

What would it entail? - the committee meets just 4 times a year when we review the last issue and plan the next one, the minutes are recorded. Our regular contributors are reminded about the deadline for submissions by a single-group email a month or so before the next publication date.

If you think you might be interested in joining us to help to continue this valued community venture and would like to have a friendly chat about it, please give me a ring on 01352 746896 or send a text to 07715 95390 or email to petererasmus1138@gmail.com

I look forward to hearing from you,

Peter Erasmus (Chairperson)

LOCAL DEFIBRILLATORS

Biomass Building, Lloyds Crescent/Edward Road, Tre-Mostyn, Holiwell, CH8 9AY
Brynford Primary School, Brynford, Holywell, CH8 8AD
Carmel Cricket Club, Pen y Gelli Cricket Ground,
St Paul's Church, Gorsedd, Holywell, CH8 8QZ
St Asaph Road, Lloc, Holywell, CH8 8RF
Carmel Village Hall, Carmel Hill, Holywell, CH8 8NZ
Holywell Golf Club, Brynford, Holywell, CH8 8LQ
Ideal Lighting, 61 High Street, Holywell, CH8 7TF
Old Town Hall, 46 High Street, Holywell, CH8 7LH
Pen y Maes Stores, 5-7 Bryn y Gwynt, Pen y Maes, Holywell, CH8 7BX
Scott the Jewellers, 46 High Street, Holywell, CH8 7LH
Strand Walk, Bank Place, Holywell, CH8 7AN
Tesco, Bank Place, Holywell, CH8 7TJ
Toe 2 Toe Fitness, North Road, Holywell, CH8 7TQ
Whitford CP School, Whitford, Holywell, CH8 9AN
Ysgol Bro Carmel, Carmel, Nr Holywell, CH8 8NU
Ysgol Gwenfrwdd, Whitford Street, Holywell, CH8 7NJ
Ysgol Treffynnon, Pen y Maes Road, Holywell, CH8 7EN
Please advise editor@5villages.org.uk if there are any we have missed!

ESTUARY VOLUNTARY CAR SCHEME (Paul Williams)



At the heart of Estuary Voluntary Car Scheme are its volunteers, a dedicated and compassionate group of individuals who donate their time and energy to making a difference in the community. For many of these volunteers, driving for the scheme is more than just a way to give something back, it's also a way to connect with others, and an opportunity to make a tangible impact on people's lives.

The loyalty and dedication of these volunteers is truly remarkable. Many have been with the scheme for years, some from its inception. They come from

all walks of life—retirees, professionals, homemakers—but they share a commitment to helping others. They are not just drivers; they are companions, offering a friendly face and a listening ear during what might otherwise be a lonely journey.

The relationship between the volunteers and their passengers often goes beyond mere transportation. Over time, bonds are formed, and friendships are built. For many passengers, the volunteers are more than just a means of getting from point A to point B; they are a vital part of their social network, offering comfort and companionship in addition to transportation.

The scheme's success is in large part due to the dedication of these volunteers. Their willingness to go the extra mile has been the driving force behind the scheme's longevity and reputation. Whether it's making an early morning hospital run or ensuring that a passenger gets home safely after a late appointment, the volunteers are always ready to step up.

Can you help?

Estuary Voluntary Car Scheme is always looking for dedicated, like-minded individuals to drive our fleet of vehicles and help our little community.

If you are over 21 years of age with a clean driving licence, are happy to

complete a free of charge DRB check, can spare a few hours each week we'd really like to hear from you.

We provide the vehicles, fully insured and we provide the fuel, all you have to do is drive.

Looking Ahead

As Estuary Voluntary Car Scheme looks to the future, it remains committed to its founding principles of service, accessibility, and community.

However, the core of the scheme will always remain the same: a commitment to providing essential transportation to those who need it most in the Flintshire area.

Estuary Voluntary Car Scheme is a testament to the power of community and the difference that a group of dedicated individuals can make. For over 30 years, it has been a lifeline for those who might otherwise be left behind, offering not just transportation, but dignity, independence, and a sense of belonging.

As it continues to grow and evolve, one thing is certain Estuary Voluntary Car Scheme will remain an indispensable part of the community for many years to come.

Should you wish to become a volunteer or if you are in need of our services, please get in touch either via email to admin@estuaryvoluntarycar.co.uk or call us on (01352) 710149.



'Skilled enough to deliver, Small enough to care'

We are Emily and Frankie and together we are Celtic Law Ltd. Based in Mold, we are a Boutique local law firm and we can help you with your Wills, Trusts, Power of Attorney as well as guiding you through Probate if you have lost a loved one.

If you would like a no obligation discussion to see how we can help, please contact **01352 860 890** or email us **hello@celtic-law.co.uk**

Celtic Law Ltd, Florence House, Bromfield Lane, Mold, CH7 1JW

Authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority SRA number 638063 - Registered company in England and Wales No. 10393259

HANNAH BLYTHYN MS



Since my last 5 Villages Chronicle column, we've had a UK General Election and it was great to finally see a Labour Government outline some of the bills it's planning in the new parliament in the King's Speech, including their plans for a new deal for work and workers. While some bills cover areas that are devolved to Wales, there is a mechanism in the Senedd to provide legislative consent to devolved areas, allowing the Welsh Government to actively work with the UK Government for the benefit of Wales. The King and Queen

also visited the Senedd back in July and I had the opportunity to meet him, during which we talked about local composer and relative of mine Paul Meallor, who wrote Coronation Kyrie for the King's coronation in 2023 – the first time that the Welsh language was sung at a coronation.



Here in our corner of North East Wales, we now have a new Labour MP, Becky Gittins – Becky's roots are firmly entrenched in Flintshire and I know she will make an excellent Member of Parliament. I've known Becky for a number of years, and I know that she has the compassion, commitment and character to make a difference to our communities and country. I'm proud to have supported Becky and campaigned with her and I know she will continue to work hard for us as our MP.

Recently, the Welsh Government reported on action it's been taking to make Wales litter and fly-tipping free – it's an issue which affects all areas of Wales, including our corner of North East Wales and especially more rural areas. Litter and fly-tipping can harm our wildlife, damage

our natural environment and blight our communities and it also reduces the number of valuable materials that could be recycled and reused.

Wales recently became the second-best recycling nation in the world – this has demonstrated our ability to make positive environmental behaviour the norm and in recent years Wales' ban on single-use plastics has helped to control littering, but there is much more work to be done. The Welsh Government has been working with businesses, local authorities, town and community councils, environmental groups and regulators to promote actions which prevent litter and fly-tipping from occurring in the first place.



Back home in Flintshire, I've been out and about during the summer recess and it was good to visit Wrexham University

NR GLAZIERS

The Home & Glass Conservatory Company

DOUBLE GLAZING

As a family business we pride ourselves in supplying and installing only the highest quality windows, doors and conservatories, with the latest technology in glass and security.

Wide selection of UPVC and hardwood available.

We Will Give You:

- Competitive Quotes
- Highest quality products
- Peace of mind with a 10 year guarantee
- Friendly reliable service
- Established over 15 years
- Efficient service



Tel: 01352 715291
info@nrglaziers.com

www.nrwindows.co.uk

and meet with Professor Joe Yates, the new Vice-Chancellor, in his first week in post. Professor Yates is a professor in criminology and social policy and has researched and published in the field of youth justice and he also backs the university's approach to inclusion. The meeting was an opportunity to discuss the role the university can play in linking with other educational institutions across the area and the wider community as well as offering opportunities and supporting the economy of North East Wales.



I also took the opportunity to visit the Denbigh and Flint Show, which celebrates the best of North Wales farming and agriculture with livestock shows, horticulture talks and some great food from the region and live music. It was great to see the prize-winners and I also had the chance to catch up with North Wales Police at their stand and talk about cyber security, which can be a real issue for many older and more rural residents. I also dropped in to talk with representatives of the National Farmers Union Cymru and the Farmers Union of Wales, and I even had the chance to pour a pint at the Hafod Brewing Co bar – one of Flintshire's success stories – and sample some of the delights at the Criad Gin stall. It was so good to see so many Flintshire organisations represented at such a large event in North Wales.

In other local news, the National Lottery has awarded two Flintshire organisations with grants totalling nearly £40,000 – Home-Start Flintshire in Mold, a voluntary organisation which promotes the welfare of families, is using its £19,907 grant to expand and diversify the group services in rural areas to connect communities, and St Winefride's Catholic Primary School in Holywell, which recently had a positive inspection from Estyn, is using its £20,000 grant to build a wellbeing garden, accessible to the whole community. The National Lottery awards grants to grassroots projects, as well as making larger awards to tackle big social issues such as improving mental health, rural poverty and tackling homelessness.

During the summer I launched a survey for constituents called Our Home, Our Health. As your Member of the Senedd, it's always been important to me to make sure communities across the constituency have their voices heard and our NHS is something which touches all our lives and matters so much to us, but we continue

to face challenges across the UK and not least in our corner of the country. I live here and work here – myself and my family depend on the same services as everyone else. I'm keen to work in partnership with both those who provide the services and those of us who use them. So, over the coming weeks and months, I will be doing what I can to engage with the workforce, community organisations and individuals, listening to people's experiences and seeking suggestions for change. There's still time to complete the survey at www.hannahblythyn.cymru/our-home-our-health-survey or, if you prefer to fill out a paper form, call my office at 01352 753464 and we'll send you a hard copy.

Finally, parents might be interested to hear that applications are open for the School Essentials Grant, which provides up to £200 to help with school costs for families. The grants are available to families

on lower incomes and those who qualify for certain benefits and can be used for school essentials such as uniform, stationery and equipment. The 2024 to 2025 scheme will close on 31st May 2025. Even if your child already receives Universal Primary Free School Meals, it is still important to check eligibility – to find out if your child is eligible, visit www.gov.wales/school-essentials-grant.

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

CARMEL CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Gareth Roberts)

How often do we jump to conclusions?

A few years ago I had a call from a very friendly Indian man called Albert who said he worked for Microsoft office solutions and that I had a problem with my computer. Anyway, cutting to the chase, I ended up giving him control of my computer and only when I almost gave him my bank details, did I come to my senses and hang up and disconnect the computer.

You may be thinking how stupid I was, and I would agree, after all how many Indian men are commonly called Albert! After that anyone who called me up with an Indian sounding voice, who called themselves Fred or Eric, I would say, "not today thanks" and just hang up.

A few months ago I received a call and the Indian sounding voice said its Mr so and so and before he could finish, I said, "not today thanks" and just hung up. A few days later a letter arrived, it said Mr so and so, the consultant, has been trying to make an appointment with you, please can you ring this number.

How easy it is to form the wrong opinions and use our past experiences to prejudice our thinking and actions. (The

recent rioting)

But we are all guilty of prejudice! In some form or another.

Most people I know have an opinion on the Bible but have never read it. Lots of people won't come to church because they think its going to be boring, judgmental, singing out of date hymns, totally irrelevant and trying to stop any fun but they still haven't found out for themselves.

The Psalmist says, Taste and see that the Lord is good. Psalm 34:8

In other words, come and find out for yourself.

Jesus said, I have come to give you life and life to the full. John 10:10

So here is my challenge!

Do you want the best life you could possibly have here and now and be certain of an amazing life in the one to come?

Why not come and find out for yourself how Jesus always keeps his promises and how he can turn your life upside down and facing the right way.

You will be made most welcome at our services each Sunday in Carmel village Hall at 6pm and on the first Sunday of the month we will have a family service at 10:30 am. We also have tea and toast on a Thursday morning when the Coffee Morning isn't on. Also watch out for our Charity Quiz nights.

JOHN SIBEON & SONS INDEPENDENT FUNERAL DIRECTORS FAMILY BUSINESS FOR OVER 150 YEARS



Private Chapel of Rest Full Monumental Masonry Service
PERSONAL SERVICE BY PAUL SIBEON



34 Brynford Street
Holywell
01352 712024

Oak House
Flint
01352 763137

CARMEL BOWLING CLUB – the end of an era!?

The Club was established in 1997 within the grounds of Ysgol Bro Carmel. Flintshire County Council built the green and provided a superb log cabin pavilion and appointed Carmel Bowling Club as its manager on site. The Club grew steadily from those early years and developed from social bowling to supporting three league teams. The Club occupies the site on licence but is required to undertake all its own green and site maintenance and the superb playing surface is the envy of many other local clubs. The Club has provided another pavilion closer to the green, equipment stores, viewing shelters and a robust security fence – all self-funded although Whitford Community Council has always been a reliable and welcome supporter. The views across the river Dee estuary from the green are some of the best in Wales!



Since 2016 the former Headteacher and governors of the school progressively restricted access to the green whether by car or on foot and this meant members could not play in the day as much as they wanted. Covid had its own detrimental impact on playing the game. Interest in playing waned and the mid-week non-pensioner team folded and now only one pensioner team has survived. The membership is small and older and



maintaining the green and facilities has become more problematic.

Sadly, the Club has become something of a “best kept secret” to many newer residents because of its secluded location within the grounds of Ysgol Bro Carmel. The Club recognised this decline early on and in 2020 started a protracted series of emails, meetings, reports and visits with the Headteacher of Ysgol Bro Carmel Joanne Garbutt, the County Council Chief Executive, other County Council officials, County Councillor Chris Dolphin, Ian Roberts the Leader of Flintshire County Council and Mared Eastwood a Cabinet member of Flintshire County Council. Hours and hours of meetings were held and thousands and thousands of words were written! There have been a few false dawns on this journey, but unfortunately no sustainable solution has been offered. The Council has in August erected a fence across the whole of the school field and cut off access to the Club’s original pavilion. The pavilion was damaged by storms earlier in the year and only makeshift repairs were carried out by the Council so remains locked up and unusable. Equally this single gate access will prevent easy access to the green for larger maintenance vehicles and these have been required at least twice in recent years. This fence was erected without consulting the Club, its manager on site!



Despite the continued impasse on the access issue the Club has acted positively and set development plans in motion. Earlier this year the Club was successful in securing grant aid from Sports Wales to address its worrying loss of members. By distributing money from The National Lottery, the Be Active Wales Fund offers grassroots sports clubs in Wales grants to get more people participating in sport activities into the future.

The Club participated in an Aviva nationally promoted Bowls’ Big Weekend event in the summer and not one person attended! Sadly, neither the school nor the Summer Playscheme held on site took up offers to have free bowls sessions. The Club held a number of free open “have a go” sessions at its green over the summer period with over 20 visits recorded. The Club promoted these activities via its Facebook page, wider social media, the five villages chronicle and traditional means. The free sessions targeted residents of all ages from the five villages and local area. The open days featured inter-generational family-based games of bowls using the Bowls Buddies kit as well as using junior and traditional crown green bowls. Holywell

Est 1990 DELYN WINDOWS

Conservatories • Windows • Doors

For professional service from quotation to installation, please call us

01352 763452

www.delynwindows.co.uk

Chester Road,
Flint,
CH6 5DT

Visit our Showroom

30 Years Of Continuous Trading

All building works available



The best for you
and your home



Find us on
Facebook

Town Council also supported the Club in its quest for more members when it hosted a successful bowls event as part of The Party in the Park in Fron Park Holywell on 27th July. Over 60 people gave bowls a try on the day. The Club also participated in a Squirrels and Beavers weekend camp attended by over 90 youngsters earlier in the summer.

The Club still has plans to organise free indoor Bowls Buddies sessions at Holywell Leisure Centre and the Carmel Village Hall later in the year, but these are now in doubt.

Chairman Alan Roberts said "The Sports Wales grant provided a lifeline to the Club to generate new community interest and lead to an increase in participation and membership. Carmel is the only bowling club in the five villages area and is in a fantastic location overlooking the Dee estuary. We wanted the Club to be a treasured asset for our wider community for years to come but that could only be achieved by attracting a new generation of members. People of all abilities can play bowls and age is no barrier. Bowls is an active social pastime that contributes to better health and wellbeing. We wanted residents to visit and have a go and make the most of this superb community recreation facility. However, despite discussions which started in 2020 and this season's many concerted attempts to attract new members the Club's committee considers that it has reached the end of the road and the reality is that the Club will discuss its future at its AGM in November. The Council has not been able to come up with a futureproof solution to preserve its own facility on this site"

To find out more about the Be Active Wales Fund please visit www.sport.wales/beactivewalesfund

Thanks to #BeActiveWales
#NationalLottery #LottoGoodCauses
#ThanksToYou #Partyinthepark
#HolywellTC

EGLWYS GYMRAEG BRO TREFFYNNON HOLYWELL & DISTRICT WELSH CHAPEL

Dyma restr o'r gwasanaethau ar gyfer yr wythnosau nesaf:
Here is the list of services for the next few weeks:

Medi / September.

15fed Debbie Roberts
22ain Parch. Huw Powell- Davies
29ain I'w drefnu

Hydref / October.

6ed Marion Simkin
13eg Parch. Huw Powell-Davies
20fed Maryl Rees
27ain Parch. Huw Powell-Davies

Tachwedd / November.

3ydd Hedd ap Emlyn
10fed Parch Huw Powell-Davies (CYMUN)
17eg Corey Hampton
24ain Arwel Roberts

Rhagfyr / December.


1af Y Parch. David Owens
8fed Y Parch. Huw Powell-Davies
15fed Gwasanaeth Carolau / Carol Service
22ain Y Parch Huw Powell-Davies
29ain UNO YN Y BETHEN/ Join at Berthen Chapel, Llicswm


Ar Nos Iau, 21ain Tachwedd am 7 o'r gloch bydd y gantores Lleuven Steffan o Gymru a Llydaw yn cynnal Cyngerdd yng Nghapel Cymraeg Bro Treffynnon fel rhan o'i thaith yng Nghymru.

On Thursday evening, 21st November the Welsh / Breton singer and musician Lleuven Steffan, will hold a Concert at the Welsh Chapel in Holywell as part of her tour of Wales.

Ar bawn Sul, 15fed Rhagfyr am 4 o'r gloch bydd Gwasanaeth Carolau Dwyieithog yn Eglwys Gorsedd yn cael ei drefnu ar y cyd rhwng Eglwys Gymraeg Bro Treffynnon ac Eglwys Gorsedd.

On Sunday afternoon, 15th December at 4 o'clock a Bilingual Carol Service will be held at Gorsedd Church arranged between the Welsh Chapel in Holywell and Gorsedd Church.








Ceidwadwyr Cymreig | **Welsh Conservatives**

MARK ISHERWOOD MS | AS

Member of the Welsh Parliament for I
Aelod Senedd Cymru dros
North Wales | Gogledd Cymru

CONTACT | CYSYLLTWCH:

 **0300 200 7217 | 01352 710232**
 **Mark.Isherwood@senedd.wales**
 **@MarkIsherwoodMS**  **Mark Isherwood**

www.markisherwood.co.uk

Talwyd costau'r cyhoeddiad hwn gan Gomisiwn y Senedd, o gronfeydd cyhoeddus
The costs of this publication have been met by the Senedd Commission from public funds



The Carmel and District Cricket Club teams are well into their season now and, despite the weather disruption earlier on have had a good run of uninterrupted games recently. At the time of our last newsletter, we were just about to start with the Summer Dynamo's and All Stars Program so let's pick up there.

All Stars & Dynamos

Each year we support the national programmes that are designed to introduce juniors from age 5 to 11 into cricket. We had 70 children sign up in total so it was quite hectic at times, a bit of a challenge but we had a successful 8 weeks. Some of the group have now joined our club junior section.

Under 9s

What an enjoyable year it has been to coach this group and support them during games on a Sunday morning, they are all keen to not only learn but to have fun, which

is what sport should be. We have a good balance between boys and girls, which is great to see. The increase in the number of girls becoming involved in cricket has had an incredible increase over the past 18 months, long may it continue.

Under 11s Girls

This season our under 11's all girls team have shown courage and determination in stepping up to hard ball cricket.

They have taken it in their stride and have played some outstanding cricket. They are brave and fierce. You are a fabulous bunch, your positivity and encouragement to one another is a joy to be part of.

Most importantly they are enjoying the game and play fair and kind to other teams. You are a positive example to all, and remember, you are leading the way for girls' cricket. We are so proud of you all!

We will begin a new phase next season as our team will have the opportunity to play under 13's as well as some ladies soft ball giving them lots more opportunities to play cricket

Under 11s Boys

This group of boys also stepped up to play hardball cricket this year which is a big moment for the junior players. The coaches always make sure they know how to what the different equipment they will use is, how to wear it and how to stay safe and enjoy playing the hardball game. They took to it very well this year and absolutely loved it. There have been

some moments of tremendous team and individual achievement this season and as a coach, every little moment like that, when you see a player achieve something they have worked towards and done in a competitive match is a real pleasure.

Under 15s

Our group have just finished their league games which have all been keenly fought. The boys have also become regular players of our senior teams, which is the club's aim from when junior's join us as their lads did at age 7. It's been great to see them develop not only as players but as individuals.

Carmel Women and Girls

This year our ladies' team has gone from strength to strength with returning players and new faces making their mark. After a rain delayed start to the season, we were excited to get out onto the pitch and put our nets training to use. Producing some really good results against tough opponents, the ladies are constantly improving both individually and as a group.

As we finish up our season, we are looking to keep the pressure on at the top of the table and end the season on a high!

The team is looking forward to participating in an indoor winter league for the first time and getting back in the nets in preparation for next season.

Our ladies' team is always looking for new players, experienced and new to the sport alike!



Your First Choice For Commercial & Domestic LPG

We are a local, family run business that provide a reliable, efficient service and affordable products across Cheshire, North & Mid Wales.

- Switching supplier easy & stress-free
- A range of cylinders & bulk tanks
- Provides low carbon emissions

- Most cost effective off-grid fossil fuel
- Prompt, reliable service
- Family business with traditional values

CAM GAS

01244 520551

www.camgas.co.uk

SENIOR TEAMS Women's and Girls Team



Carmel Women's and Girls' team wearing their new shirts sponsored by the Stamford Gate Hotel and Restaurant

Carmel Women's and Girls Team are enjoying an excellent season in the North Wales Women's Cricket League East Division and are currently top of the league. The team has taken part in some really exciting matches this season, including the 16 points to 4 victory against St Asaph Spinners on 11th August and the 18 points to 6 victory against Pontblyddyn on 28th July. There were some outstanding batting performances in the game against Pontblyddyn, including scores of 21 from Haf Morgan-Read, 20 from Charlotte Taylor and 21 from Jenny Jones. Carmel still have a number of difficult games remaining against teams near the top of the division, and the team will be eager to finish the season as strongly as possible in order to try and win the league for the first time ever. Whatever the outcome, all the players should feel extremely proud of their efforts this season.

Men's First XI



Carmel First XI wearing their new shirts sponsored by Wayfind Pennant Park

Carmel First XI are currently in 9th place in North Wales Cricket League Division Two with games in hand over the teams immediately above them. The team will be hoping for a comfortable mid-table finish in order to compete again at this level next season. Amongst the season's highlights so far are Ben Sim's outstanding innings of 93 not out away at Gresford Second XI on 10th August, Lee Rowles' excellent bowling figures of 4 wickets for 26 runs from 8 overs against Corwen First XI on 29th June, and Amer Jamil's superb bowling display in the home fixture against Gresford Seconds where he took 5 wickets for a mere 5 runs from 5.5 overs.

Men's Second XI

Carmel Seconds are currently in 8th place in Division Four of the North Wales League. Once again, this year, the team has provided a solid platform for some of the club's younger cricketers to make the transition to senior cricket, and there have been some very encouraging performances throughout the season. Some of the highlights include Jacob Owen's score of 18 against Mynydd Isa & Maeshafn First XI on 10th August, Vishal Mony's score of 35 against Llandudno Seconds on 27th July, and Rick Kirkham's excellent score of 69 not out against Corwen Seconds on 18th May.

Shirt Sponsorship

This season the club is absolutely delighted to have shirt sponsors for the men's and women's senior teams. The men's shirts have been sponsored by Wayfind Pennant Park in Whitford and the women's shirts have been sponsored by the Stamford Gate Hotel and Restaurant in Holywell. We are extremely grateful to both these local businesses for supporting grassroots cricket in the local community, and the shirt logos and designs look absolutely terrific.

Looking ahead

6 weeks indoor training will begin in October, in either Holywell High School or the Leisure Centre (depending on the age group). This is a great chance to focus on skills development, building on achievements from the season just gone and start to look ahead to next summer.

If you, or your children would like to try a new sport (or return to an old one) do get in touch or come along to one of our training sessions. You can contact us through Facebook, Instagram or Twitter—we'd be happy to talk to you and welcome you to the club!

You can also call or text Cameron on 07522 940731.

FIVE VILLAGES GARDENING CLUB June

There was a really good turnout for our plant sale on the 6th. Everyone had well stocked tables of plants ready for customers to pick from. It was a very busy afternoon and £161 was made for club funds. Thank you for everyone who supported us.

July

We left Carmel by coach in torrential rain but arrived at R.H.S. Bridgewater to find that it had stopped, so we were able to walk around the garden and see the amazing progress that had been made, especially in the Chinese garden, since our last visit. It was a really enjoyable day in excellent company. Lots of members came home with plants and shrubs. The journey home gave us time to compare notes on what we had all seen and enjoyed.

August

August is our Annual Garden Show and time to show the results of a year of nurturing all the plants in our gardens. The tables of exhibits were testimony to how hard everyone had battled through a very difficult growing year. The colour and quality of the floral exhibits was superb, and the foliage exhibits were just as eye-catching. The cup for the best fuschia was won by Ann Brown and the shield was won by Christine Hamer.

On 5th September we were all looking forward to a visit to Mostyn Hall Gardens and on 3rd October we have an illustrated talk by Joe Wainwright, a garden photographer. November 7th is our A.G.M. December 5th is our annual Christmas lunch – venue yet to be decided. Club meetings are normally held the first Thursday of the month in Carmel Village Hall at 2.0pm. New members are always made very welcome. For further information contact our Secretary on 01352 716273.



GARETH W DAVIES

Funeral Directors / Trefnwyr Angladdau

24hr independent family run service.

Gareth & Eryl have a combined experience of over 70 years.

"Prompt and Personal Attention at all times"

61 High Street, Holywell, CH8 7TF

01352 746505

info@gwdavies.co.uk / www.gwdavies.co.uk

STRANGE SLEEPOVERS (Geraint Roberts)

How many of you I wonder have spent a night away from home and woken up confused, taking a couple of seconds to remember where you are? This isn't uncommon, especially perhaps after a few drinks. But what if that feeling of disorientation lasts more than a couple of seconds? What if the effects of such a sleepover leaves a permanent change in personality?

There are several places in Cymru where, according to folklore this is exactly what will befall anyone spending the night there. Let's look at a few.



Cadair Idris (on the right)

The most famous is Cadair Idris, the mountain dominating the skyline above Dolgellau and our 17th highest peak. If you spend the night alone on the summit, by morning, one of two things will have happened to you. You may wake up as a gifted poet, or, you may have seen a great wonder! A mountain top sojourn in the rude shelter just below Cadair's summit in an orange sunset may indeed be inspirational enough to produce an ode or two!

As for witnessing a great wonder I can offer two 'tongue in cheek' suggestions. According to legend, Idris was a giant, he

was also a stargazer who would sit on the summit studying the night sky. Perhaps the great wonder is a celestial one seen in the unpolluted darkness of the Cadair Idris sky! The other offer, with my tongue firmly bulging the other cheek is a small arachnid called the 'Micraria Alpina' which has only been recorded in two places in Cymru. It is an extremely rare spider found above the 2600 foot contour on Cadair



Micraria Alpina spider

Idris and Glyder Fach, both in Eryri. This leads me nicely to the next location where spending the night alone offers possible consequences. There is a geological feature some five hundred yards away from the summit of Glyder Fach known as Castell y Gwynt (Castle of the Wind). Seen emerging from the mist in a howling wind it is easy to imagine it as a troll's castle. Here too, like Cadair Idris, wannabe poets should



Castell y Gwynt

consider a sleepover; and like Cadair the prospect of seeing something wondrous also could happen. However, a third possibility exists on this lofty plateau, if one doesn't become enriched with the muse, or see the great wonder, the lone sleeper will, by the morning have lapsed into insanity! The world of literature contains several examples which clearly illustrates the dividing line between poetical genius and insanity to be at best a blurred one.

Apart from some rare examples found in Scotland the 'micraria alpina' spider has only been recorded on the Cadair Idris and Glyder plateaus and I would suggest that to see one at either location would indeed be a 'great wonder'. Before leaving Glyder Fach I should perhaps mention the 'Cantilever Rock', a dramatic perched slab of rock a



The Cantilever

few yards away from the summit. It is one of several boulders abandoned in transit by the melting glaciers of twelve thousand years ago adorning the mountain top. Charles Kingsley described them as "the dead bones of the eldest born of time". The Cantilever was illustrated by Moses Griffiths as he accompanied Pennant in his 'Tours of Wales'. The Cantilever itself is a sight of great wonder.

Three miles to the south-west as the raven flies and under the brow of Y Wyddfa's steepest cliff is a singular boulder of huge proportions; it is called Maen Du'r Arddu'. It too was left by the retreating ice



Maen Du'r Arddu

as was a smaller boulder perched on its top. Spending the night atop these boulders also comes with a health warning. The usual lure of becoming a gifted poet is offset by the alternative outcome of insanity. Many years ago one Huw Belissa and Huwcyn Sion y Canu (two Llanberis characters) decided to give it a try and spent a very uncomfortable night sitting on the top boulder. Tradition maintains that Huwcyn





Hargreaves & Woods

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS & BUSINESS ADVISERS

Contact us today for a free initial consultation.

What we offer:
Accounts preparation, Personal tax, Corporation tax, Payroll, VAT, Bookkeeping, Company formation, Company valuation, Management accounts, and Audit.

Why trust us?
Over 20 years of experience in providing a range of accountancy services. We can provide financial peace of mind.

Telephone: 01244 400 219
Email: enquiries@hargreaveswoods.co.uk
Address: Cholmondeley House, Dee Hills Park, Chester, CH3 5AR



ICAEW
CHARTERED
ACCOUNTANTS



went on to be quite a successful poet under the tutelage of Abraham Williams (Bardd Du Eryri) who inspired Gutyn Peris, Gwilym Peris and Dafydd Ddu Eryri among others, poets whose work are still revered. Huw, his partner for that overnight stay on Maen Du'r Arddu faded into obscurity, a broken man who apparently became dependant on alcohol.



Aran Fawddwy

Aran Fawddwy is our 16th highest peak and is situated roughly half-way between Bala and Dolgellau. There are several legends associated with this mountain range (see my 'Early Mountain Biking article', 5 Villages 147) but one which has a specific relevance to this article is if one was to spend the night alone on the summit, the dawn would break to the melancholy sound of fairies solemnly singing a haunting dirge!

Two miles south west on one of Aran Fawddwy's main ridges is a substantial vegetated cliff called Craig Cywarch. It overlooks a remote and enchanting upland valley with no through road. One section of the cliff has a feature called 'Gwely Prys Melyn' (Yellow Prys's Bed). Here too is the promise of bardic renown if you spend the night in or on the bed. It comes with the usual caveat that the alternative is insanity.



Old Man of Cywarch

Nearby is a rock feature called 'The Old Man of Cywarch', an easter island-esque natural profile of ... could it be Prys Melyn? Some of the early doyens of the Stafford mountaineering club hut nestling in the valley below named the rockclimb 'Yellow Policeman' a phonetic translation of 'Prys Melyn which became – Policeman!

Bedd Taliesin is a bronze age burial site but like many of our rock features has been hijacked by folklore to become the grave of a 6th poet. It is found in the uplands north of Aberystwyth. Taliesin was found as a baby in a leather bag which had been washed up in a fishing 'goret' (trap)



Bedd Taliesin

owned by the unfortunate prince Elffin. I say unfortunate, because nothing he did had a successful outcome. Even his portion of his father's estate (Gwyddno Garanhir) was lost to the sea when Cantref Gwaelod was flooded. However, when he found Taliesin and decided to bring him up as his own his luck changed when his young charge turned out to not only be a great poet but a gifted prophet. Some of Taliesin's early Welsh poetry still survives and here too an overnight stay on the huge sloping capstone will bring the double-edged sword of poetical genius or insanity.



Tinkinswood



Robber turned to stone, Llandyfydog, Ynys Mon

Another capstone, and this one is estimated to weigh forty tons can be found at Tinkinswood in the Vale of Glamorgan. Spending May-day night, St. John's night or Midwinter night on this huge slab of rock will also bestow either the gift of poetry, insanity and in this case the more sobering alternative of death!

What is it about the magical powers of certain stones and rocks which have seeped into our folklore? Legends abound about people punished by being turned to stone. Some stones move at night. Crying babies left on certain rocks become pacified by the morning (pre Social Services days!) How many of you have had your legs held whilst you leaned back to kiss the Blarney Stone in Ireland?

I have actually spent the night on both Cadair Idris and Castell y Gwynt several years ago, and having not become a gifted poet I must leave it to the reader to decide whether any of the other attributes have been bestowed upon me!



Autumn Falls



**Call into the Old Backyard Garden Centre
for your Winter Pansies, Cyclamens, Violas etc.**

**A nice warm fire - Logs, Kindling and Coal
Plants and Shrubs, Roses, Compost
Building Jobs - Supplier of Bagged Aggregates,
Coloured Stone, Slate, Building Sand, Sand/Gravel,
Washed Sand, Cement
Silk Flowers and Grave Pot Arrangements**

**The Old Backyard Garden Centre, Boot End, Bagillt
(Next door to NR Glaziers) - mobile 07774 885475**



i scape landscaping

**Retaining Walls, Steps, Stone
Walling, Patios, Fencing, Timber
Structures, Decking, Turf &
Artificial Grass, Drainage**

07929 739 632

**COUNCILLOR CHRIS
DOLPHIN**
**Hello everyone, Sut mae
pethau:**

Financial Planning for a Flintshire Council budget never stops. I recently attended a budget briefing concerning Medium Term Financial Strategy and budget setting which includes our council tax for 2025/26. The headline is that as I write, the financial gap that Flintshire County Council needs to even out is over £38million.

Flintshire is the sixth largest Council in Wales in terms of population; however, Flintshire is a low funded council, and always in the bottom three for national council tax funding in Wales. The Council Fund budget was £368m and from this we will have to absorb significant new costs, whilst trying to sustain services. We are hit by pay and price inflation; utility and fuel inflation; new legislation; reductions in grants; loss of income in a flat economy; borrowing rates for new schools as an example; Service pressure such as high demand for expensive personal social care. Years of austerity, and of course the formula used by successive governments for funding, leaving Flintshire badly exposed in comparison to most other authorities.

The council has reserves of finance, however due to previous years of austerity and governments delivering to Flintshire poor funding compared to others, we have a reserve of 4.06% of budget, consisting of £2.972m contingency and £3m budget risk, so reserves are quite low. Key risks at present are pay awards with negotiations ongoing; teacher pension costs with negotiations ongoing; homelessness with an increase in demand; children's services with a very high demand; school and public transport costs; planning and building control and delivery of approved cost reductions. Any net overspend will need to come from the reserves. At present the outlook is bleak (again) and if financial

risks identified materialise and cannot be mitigated all the budget risk reserves and a large proportion of the contingency reserve will be lost.

Our ability to manage these risks will again centre on delaying and deferring spend, maximising income streams and grant funding, and a continuation of non-essential spend. Examples are the minimum increase required to maintain a stable care home and home care sector is £3.985m. A real cost pressure in education is the bigger demand for specialist education, the specialist provision is full. This is a very expensive service and due to limited capacity and increased national demand, external places range from £50k - £100k per placement.

Everything our council provides, as in the past, is being examined. I have only mentioned a little, there is so much more: let's find out a little as to how these impacts on the delivery of, say, waste collections.

BLACK BINS:

There will be a change to black bin waste collections; they will become three weekly collections and with a calendar change. The weekend collections will finish, however not for some months yet. Recycling and food collections plus other hygiene collections will remain weekly. Financial savings of approximately £650,000 - £800,000 per year on black bin collections could be made if collected three-weekly (or monthly), however the change that is required is not solely or even primarily financial. Recycling targets set by Welsh Government (WG) have not been met for some years and Flintshire must take action to delay or stop infraction fines for not meeting the target set. Those possible fines at present are more than £1.2million.

From 2024/25 the statutory target for waste prepared for reuse, recycled and composted will increase to 70% next year, having previously been set at 64%. The Council has not met the 64% target in any of the last four years, and so needs

a significant improvement on recycling figures, and added to Flintshire facing the threat of recycling penalties from WG, action must be taken.

Public consultation took place in 2024, and a strategy was adopted, with further exercises and work now being completed, a decision is required which includes maximising recycling potential and improving performance; reducing our impact on the environment by reducing greenhouse emissions; reducing operational costs.

The Council is under orders to hit the 70% recycling rate, the highest Flintshire has ever been is 63.98% in 2020/21. The latest full year data shows that 7,600 tonnes of material in black bins needs to be diverted to recycling. The compositional analysis shows 13,410 tonnes of material in the black bins could have been recycled using the existing services. Only 42%, 9,710 tonnes were correctly in the black bins. 6,940 tonnes was food, 3,010 tonnes were dry recycling, 2,310 tonnes was other recycling, 690 tonnes was garden waste, and 460 tonnes was other hygienic waste.

We are informed the Welsh Government is closely monitoring Flintshire's performance and what the authority decides to do in future. The favoured Council officers' approach was a blanket no weekend collection service, and a weekly recycling and food collections service. The black bin services also having no weekend collections, using the same size black bins, and collecting monthly. This model would achieve the highest percentage increase of 5.9% and the largest projected financial savings circa £770,000.

The Environment Committee did not support the monthly proposals, and it was decided, no weekend collections, weekly recycling and food collections and the change being, three-weekly black bin collections. This was a tense meeting, voted for on the Chair's casting vote. This service should lift our county recycling

WILDAY CONSTRUCTION

Roofing Specialists & Building Contractors

Guaranteed work, Experienced Reliable Tradesman, Lead Work, Slate & Tiling, Fascia & Soffits, High Tensile Bitumen and Rubber EPDM Flat roofs.

We are proud of the quality of our work, and the service we provide.

You can see some of projects at www.wildayconstruction.co.uk

For the best property maintenance service, call, email or text Jonathan on :

**T : 01352 780 344
M : 07935 990 495**

wilday@live.co.uk

**Laurel House
Rhosesmor Rd,
Halkyn,
Flintshire, CH8 8DL**

figures to 66%, still not hitting the WG target but will save approximately £650,000 plus annually. A start date of this new service is not yet known as further reports and planning of delivery is required. We also need further uplift in our recycling figures; how can this be achieved? We still may be fined over a £1million by WG for past and present performance on recycling figures. It is certainly noteworthy that Wales is the second best in the world at recycling, it's just that Flintshire at present is not one of the best in Wales at achieving those figures.

The roll out for a three weekly black bin collection, is some months away, there will be a new calendar for us all, and publicity, door knocking etc to inform all.

BABELL ROAD:

the footway project saga continues and as I write there are now also further highway safety improvements. A chicane is now planned on Babell Road as you leave / enter the village, expansion of the 20mph zone and an added buffer zone of 30mph towards the Monastery Road junction. The kerbed footway would therefore be on the closed side of the road with the bank and trees remaining. The Road Safety Unit will have trialled the area for a week and residents who live close to the area have and will be kept informed.

CONTACT:

If you need to contact your 5 Villages Whitford Ward County Councillor Chris Dolphin call 01352 713415 or e-mail chris_dolphin@hotmail.co.uk or write to me at 11 Ffordd Aelwyd, Carmel, CH8 8SH.

Cyngor Cyngorydd: Er gwybodaeth rhif cyswllt cyngorydd sir ardal Chwittffordd a'r pum pentref yw Chris Dolphin, 01352 713415, ebost chris_dolphin@hotmail.co.uk neu pe dymunwch ysgrifennu llythyr fy nghyfeiriad yw, 11 Ffordd Aelwyd, Carmel, CH8 8SH.

EVERY MEMORY MATTERS - HOLYWELL'S OWN HISTORY AND RESEARCH GROUP (Andrea Yarnell Dakin)

We are happy to announce that the weekly reminiscence group - Tuesday at the leisure centre - and the weekly Thursday quiz now have their very own room. We have space for our archives and exhibits and will be able to develop our many ideas. It is our own private lock up library and exhibit area and is situated just above the main library with whom we have strong links.

Our Olde Holywell themed greetings cards are for sale from us and at the main library - pictures of the old town with especially written verses. Also a Bronte themed novel written by one of our group - profits to the Reminiscence group. And soon we will reproduce two excellent booklets on the history of Bryn Celyn written by Cynthia Roberts - one of our members who when it was first written sold over one thousand copies world wide.

Also in production again is "This is Your Town", an illustrated book with stories and poems on some fascinating aspects of the town written especially for children - but no reason why it should not appeal to all of you grown up children out there.

We are also working on our 2025 calendar with pictures of old Holywell and will be displaying our wares and much more of our exhibits at the Northop History Day in October.

This is the beginning of a new and exciting era for Every Memory Matters, which according to the North East Wales Heritage Forum (of which we are a member) is the only history group of its kind in the area - meeting weekly and producing archives and publications.

Now that we have a constitution, a committee and a bank account we are applying for funding for further exciting and innovative projects - WATCH THIS SPACE!!

We would love to hear your stories and we love to share ours. Any research you would like to work on we can help with as we have archives and files on all aspects of the town and now we can accommodate enquiries any day. We cannot be more grateful to the leisure centre who have made us welcome since we moved there in March and are very happy now to have our own archive library. We also have our own genealogy expert on hand who is excited to help you. Come and visit us - we would love to see you.

10 am Tuesday reminiscence group

1 pm Thursday - general knowledge and picture quiz with our experienced and genial host Bob. Small prizes - Big fun.

We also have our own genealogist on hand, who is happy to help with any family history queries. She can offer a free, one-hour, face-to-face consultation to discuss any specific genealogy research questions. This would include any look-ups on the various online genealogy sites. For more in-depth research, to include the purchase of certificates etc, we would offer bespoke research packages costed out to match the amount of work required.

Please if you wish - see our facebook page Holywell Reminiscing Group, or email me on andreadakin112@btinternet.com or phone me on 01352 711240.

OIL BOILER SERVICE & REPAIR

**OFTEC REGISTERED
ENGINEER**

Contact: Mark Williams

Mob: 07977 591805

MT Computers *Holywell*

New computer builds.
All types of upgrades for desktops and laptops.
Repairs to laptops and desktops.
Software setups and re-installations.
Photo and data recovery.
Virus and spyware removal.

01352 391168

07413775581

www.mtcomputersholywell.co.uk

MIKE PARKINSON ROOFING

All Types Of Roofing Work
Slate, Tiling, Lead Work
Flat Roofs, Pointing, Guttering
All Work Guaranteed
Free Estimates
CRB checked
Established 30 Years

tel: 01352 714638

m: 07913515170

St Bernardettes Cottage,
Pantasaph, Holywell CH8 8PJ



Most Sizes 'All Makes' are Available

01352 - 720375

St.Asaph Road Lloc

HOLYWELL TYRES-MOT
Servicing or Mot Testing
Quality Tyres at Sensible Prices



Vehicle Collection or Return if Required

TOYO High Performance Tyres **TOYO**



NOT A MINOR POET! (Norman Closs - Parry)

In the days when teachers taught according to an accepted scheme of work which had been worked out by the Head, staff and a few governors - education took place... children learned about the world of nature - the world of man [his place in the world of the old and new, and the world of the spirit - the thoughts, the emotion, and belief]... there was delight in education. I'm not so sure nowadays, of the imposed central government curriculum and very little local flavour, impact and time to involve the children in their nature, their fathers' work and holy festivals!? Then there were inspections - not these ESTYN FOCUS SNAPSHOTS but a full-blown HMI team visit (nearly lasting a week) where there was dialogue - input and output - and benefit on the spot at the time - certainly no plastic posters on walls stating facts the public don't understand.

However, on to my desk one morning - the dreaded brown envelope stating that the school was going to be inspected (full) on such a date, arrived with the name of the reporting inspector, and could I please ensure that 'the following' was either sent to them or made available to them by such and such a date!?

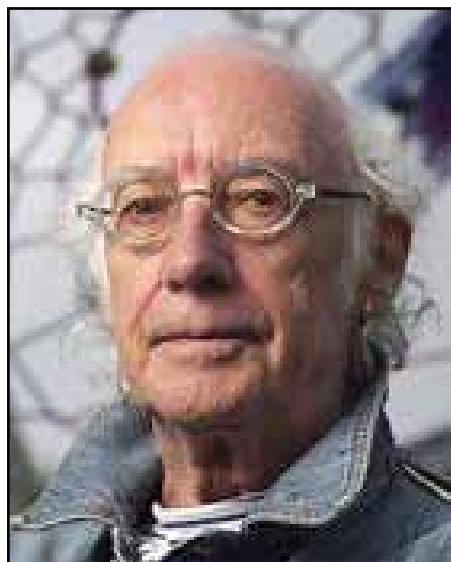
To cut a long story short, my considered opinion after experiencing both types of inspections was that HMI ones were more beneficial to the school, and at the end of the whole exercise - the staff felt more fulfilled and appreciated... and respected in debate!

The trouble was, is and forever will be, human nature. Being inspected is not a 'nice experience! There is an element of mad rush, last minute spit and polish and 'nerves' in the whole experience... I had decided in my 'ivory tower' that my role would be 'to be the buffer'! Take the shocks, bumps and panics away from the staff as much as I could - and at the same time making sure we were as well and honestly prepared as possible!

Before the dreaded week which was suggested to be 'normal' [what utter rubbish] - the reporting inspector visited to see me as Head - then the parents. Do not misunderstand me - I don't believe child learning should be accounted to us by them.

During our talk, she asked, or said - 'and you - we would like to hear and see you involved with the children!'. No worries. I was a "hands on" head anyway - but how - what could I do?

I had a brain wave...



The previous Christmas to the inspection I had given to me a Faber Oxford Book of Christmas Poems... which included all of the old favourites and some new ones. Within the book I found a new poet - Roger McGough! Does he ring a bell? The Mersey Sound of his 1960's (I'm giving my age away now!).

If you don't remember those days of liberation and irrelevance -then for the last 20 years he has been the pivot of 'Poetry Please' on Saturday night on R4! For all this he has been honoured - President of the Poetry Society and has been given the Freedom of the City of Liverpool, his birthplace - and in 2005 a CBE for services to literature. How did Roger McGough, who has thrilled generations with what the mainstream literature' terms irreverent' - and the People's Poet' - came to my aid for an HMI inspection!

As the Head of a large school, the headteacher did not have a class as such - but I treated my Monday and Friday morning collective school gatherings as my main class.

The last poem in The Christmas Anthology referred to earlier was a 'funny/serious (as McGough can be) poem titled - 'The Fight of the Year' - As some old Holywell High/Basingwerk ex pupils/readers remember - I could draw/paint a bit... and one of my party pieces was the mass talk to the school using slap dash painting I could emulate!

I read and reread The Fight of the Year - YES - I got pots of paint and large brushes ready, pinned large white background paper onto the huge rolling blackboard but I had already prepared the 'version' - large printed... so that after each slap dash we could recite together [and as it turned out plus HMI's] the part of the natural world struggle at

the turn of the season...!!!

The hall was full, children sitting on the floor, HMI's on chairs - duty teachers standing by exits - and I was away - as I painted the background I read the verse...

*'And there goes the bell for the third month
and Winter comes out of its corner looking groggy
Spring heads with a left to the head
followed by a sharp right to the body
daffodils
primroses
crocuses
snowdrops
lilacs
violets
pussy willow...'*

The children were getting the hang of it... and were on the edge of their seats when I went to the last sheet - verse...

*'Winter won't go the full twelve rounds
bobtail clouds
scally waggy winds
the sun
a pavement artist
in every town
a left to the chin
and Winter is down'*

[by now they were in the spirit of the poem, and they did the count]



1 tomatoes
2 radish
3 cucumber
4 onions
5 beetroot
6 celery
7 and any
8 amount
9 of lettuce
10 for dinner
Winter's out for the count
Spring is the winner!

Who is the winner children?"
'Spring!'

A couple of the HMI's came and actually congratulated me with a BUT - it had taken a bit of the Maths lesson time!

Alder Hey Hospital is in the news again - what a boon that place is... This time it's working to save the injured children after the Evil of Southport. Southport is all right - it's what happened there and regrettably more frequently in other Southports - it is not the knives - it's the minds... it's the cause... it's part of what a politician said not a generation ago - "What society, there is no society?"

We, the Closs family, had occasion (more than once) to attend Alder Hey... with Idris my grandson when no more than an infant.

When we went in, with a little trepidation to be truthful – WOW - what transformation... a hospital child centred... Idris left our hands and went like an arrow to some of the purpose placed equipment in the vast light filled decorated hall - again child (and Closs!) centred). All fear had gone, we were welcome - even on the wall dedicated to TREES ARE GREAT - we understood, like home from home.

*Trees are great, they just stand and wait
They don't cry when they're teased
They don't eat much and they seldom shout
Trees are easily pleased.
Trees are great, they like to congregate
For meetings in the park
They dance and sway, they stay all day
And talk till well after dark.*

*Trees are great, they accept their fate
When it's pouring down with rain,
They don't wear macs, it runs off their barks
But you never hear them complain.*

*So answer now please, if there weren't any trees
Where would naughty boys climb?
Where would lovers carve their names?
Where would little birds nest?
Where would we hang their leaves?*

*Signed - yes you are right - Roger McGough
Designed - in Autumnal colours on the big wall in Alder Hey hospital!*

*Patients and Parents stopping...
Parents and patients looking
At their level, they're reading
With colourful understanding...*

That is Roger McGough's strength - he does make you better!!
Try him - there is a lot of him about.

Try 'Poetry Please' or his new release 'The Collected Poems for 1959-2024'!!

GORSEDD CREATIVE WRITING GROUP (Sandy Neville)

It was with some trepidation that I sent out a flier seeking interest in the formation of a creative writing group in Gorsedd. Now, some seven months later, we have several regular members and Gorsedd Creative Writing Group is steadily growing and developing.

The idea is to create a supportive, inspirational, friendly, fun environment for all interested in creative writing, whether experienced, published writers or complete beginners. Age and ability are no barriers. I never cease to be amazed at the imagination and skill of our participants, even if they often do not believe in their own abilities.

There is space for new members so, if anybody feels they have a story to tell or even aspirations of seeing their words published, why not come along to a meeting and judge for yourself whether or not it is for you?

Our meetings are held at St Paul's Church, Gorsedd on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month from 7.00 – 9.00 p.m. and the cost is £4 per session, which covers hire of the venue and endless tea, coffee and biscuits.

If you want any more information simply contact me on 01352 961597 or email sandy@thenevilles.net. I can guarantee you'll receive a warm welcome.

NATURE COLUMN (Jan Miller)

A lot of people have noticed how few butterflies and bees there have been this summer. We only have 36 species of butterflies in North Wales, and half of these were already threatened before the weather wreaked havoc with breeding this year. We are seeing a few more of the second generation now and also many fly over from the continent. If we have warmer, drier weather for a few months our butterfly numbers may build up again next year, but it is touch-and-go.

Through wet grass on an unusually warm morning this 'year with no summer' I am creeping up to the treasure chest of my moth trap. Some small brown moths are still dancing around the very hot and bright mercury vapour lamp, which I switch off. Underneath the Perspex lids I can see many more live jewels of different shaped and coloured moths.; Mother-of-Pearl, Iron and Swallow Prominents, Willow Beauty, Brimstone, Copper underwing, Phoenix, Flame shoulder and Footmen. Then carefully lifting out the egg box hiding places, amazingly, two huge grey and pale blue rarities called Clifden's nonpareil. I had heard they had been seen locally, but this is one of the first this far north.



Clifden's nonpareil moth

Moths, in the same family as butterflies, don't need bright sun. Many species do need moisture in the air, however, and some are spreading north from the continent with climate change faster than others, due not only to temperature but to increased rain. Some once rare moths are turning up now, like the Scarlet Tiger and the Clifden nonpareil, and both need damp



Mother-of-Pearl moths

habitat. But many others are becoming scarce; we have lost over 40% of our 2,500 species of moths since the War. Woodland corridors have been found to increase the possibility of spread, and moths have now been found to be much more important as pollinators than previously realised.

But there are other factors at play in the movement of our insect pollinators. All-night light in towns make tree leaves too tough for caterpillars to eat, pesticides now 10,000 times stronger than DDT and still used in spray form. Drugs against fleas and intestinal worms are getting into the soil and water courses from domesticated animals (including dog flea treatments). There are widespread unknown accidental cocktails of many different pesticides, yet they are only tested for individual toxicity.

There is such a complicated web of relationships in an ecosystem. Some 25 years ago, I played a game with a class of kids, each choosing what life they would be in a forest. Some were trees, some plants underneath, birds or spiders or insects. They stood in a circle, each holding onto the same string. I came along and 'chopped' down one of the trees and some of the others. As each child fell, they pulled the two either side down with them, a little or a lot, and began to see the cascade of interdependence on each other. Scientists are talking more and more about this cascade of environmental collapse we are seeing now. But moths can be surprisingly adaptable to change. Moth larvae are often more polyphagous (eat different plants) than butterflies, and many feed on native

trees. Just allowing grass and wildflowers to grow long may attract adult insects, but if mown too soon can simply trap them where they cannot then breed and overwinter. More corridors of trees as well as meadows are needed to wind through our cities, new builds and countryside. And wouldn't that be great for over-heated and polluted air-breathing people too?

If you would like to help butterflies and moths to survive you can find out more at www.butterfly-conservation.org © Jan Miller August 2024.



backdoctor

Chiropractic Clinic

**Relief and Rehabilitation for
Back, Neck Pain & Headaches**

Chester Clinic 01244 637535	St Asaph Clinic 01745 535854
--------------------------------	---------------------------------

www.back-doctor.co.uk

JLR Fuels

Your LOCAL Coalman

**Regular supplies of all fuels
at best prices and now
including bottled gas**

**Cash & Carry from our
Yard at Lloc**

**For Top Service phone
07565 852001**

Easy PC Tuition

Bespoke, friendly IT training by Catherine Jackson

I can help with:	iPad
Windows	iPhone
Apple	Printer
Smartphone	Scanner
Tablet	Digital Camera

www.easypctuition.co.uk
training@easypctuition.co.uk

Call, text or WhatsApp: 07780 387269



I'm
learning BSL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Any comments, opinions and feedback relating to the Five Villages Chronicle or any aspect of local news would be gratefully received.

CONGRATULATIONS

The Governing Body of St Winefride's Catholic Primary School, Holywell are extremely proud to share with the Five Villages Chronicle community details of the recent Estyn inspection of our school. The Estyn Inspectors noted "St Winefride's Catholic Primary School is a highly inclusive, caring and compassionate community where pupils and their families feel welcomed and valued." Areas highlighted in the Estyn Inspectors report include:

- Leaders and staff work tirelessly to create a warm and welcoming environment for pupils and their families, where they can 'learn and grow together in the love of Christ.'
- The positive and warm relationships that exist between staff, pupils and parents support pupil's wellbeing exceptionally well, and are a strength of the school.
- Teachers and highly skilled support staff work together to provide effective support for pupils with ALN (Additional Learning Needs).
- Pupils are proud of their school and enjoy coming to school.

This report is a wonderful validation of all the hard work undertaken by all staff and governors over the past years. We will all continue to work to give our pupils the best opportunities in a caring, nurturing environment.

If you would like to read the full Estyn report, this is available at

<https://www.estyn.gov.wales/provider/6643307>.

ANNOUNCEMENT

There is no quarterly weather report in this issue of the Five Villages Chronicle. This is the first time we have missed it since 2001, a result of a cyber-attack on the computer at the weather station. We hope to have a double report - Summer and Autumn - in the next issue.

**BOD GWILYM GARAGE
GORSEDD
HOLYWELL
CH8 8QZ**

**Accident Damage Repair
Paintless Dent Removal**

Tel:- 01352 713256

RONALD MADDOCK



Ronald Maddock, known to everyone as Ron, lived at Bryn Aur, Gorsedd. He passed away after a short illness at Glan Clwyd Hospital, on the 25th June, 2024.

Born on the 30th of December 1928 in Frodsham, Ron was an only child, brought up by his parents in the Frodsham area. After completing his education, he became an apprentice engineer with the Royal Navy. Upon leaving the Navy, Ron joined ICI as a maintenance engineer before moving to the Shell refinery at Stanlow, Ellesmere Port. There he progressed to become a maintenance engineer, planner, Training officer and Area Engineer. Ron was well respected by colleagues and was instrumental in training many mechanical apprentices, helping them to get their degrees.

Ron met his first love, Joyce, at a local dance, leading to 50 years of marriage.

They had one son, Andrew. Andrew followed his father's footsteps becoming an apprentice engineer at Shell where he met Denise, and they married in 1976.

Tragically, Andrew passed away a year after his marriage, a devastating loss for the family.

In 1985 Ron and Joyce moved to Gorsedd. Ron and Joyce travelled together on holidays to Majorca and Italy where they would spend special times at their favourite resorts on the Amalfi Coast. Sadly in 1997 Joyce passed away, a loss that deeply affected Ron.

Ron then spent a great deal of his time on his hobbies particularly watching Grand Prix racing at Oulton Park. He also loved classic cars and owned an MGB Roadster and an Austin Healey Sprite. He was also passionate about building and flying model aircraft, a hobby he shared with friends at the Delyn Flying Club where he served as a radio-controlled flying instructor. His workroom at home remained a testament to his love of model aircraft. Ron was cherished by the members of the flying club who organised a special 90th birthday celebration for him.

It was at Delyn Flying Club that Ron met his partner Margaret, and they spent 20 wonderful years together, often travelling to Venice, Margaret's favourite destination. Ron became close to Margaret's family especially her daughter Sarah and her husband Jade.

Ron was fortunate to have supportive neighbours, who all became close friends and assisted him in his later years. Throughout his lifetime Ron was a highly independent man who lived his life to the full in the company of those he loved and respected most.

Many of his friends were at the service held at Landican North Chapel on the Wirral on the 30th July 2024. The service was led by Ian Gunning MBE. Ron was laid to rest in Landican Cemetery, reunited with his wife Joyce.

Our condolences go out to Denise and her husband Graham, and their daughters, Suzanne and Jennifer as well as Margaret and her family.

(Alun Evans)

FOREST HILL TROUT FARM **SHOP & FISHERY**

A beautiful place to visit, fresh trout for sale, also sea foods, salmon, fishcakes, prawns etc, jams, jellies and chutneys.

**SHOP OPEN EVERY DAY
10AM – 5PM SUMMER / 4PM WINTER**

Fly and bait fishing – sessions every day for home reared rainbow and brown trout.

**DOWNING ROAD, WHITFORD
TEL: 01745 560151
FREE PARKING – NO ENTRANCE CHARGE**

1ST CARMEL SCOUT GROUP

Beavers (6-8 yrs.)

Cubs (8-11 yrs.)

Scouts (11-14 yrs.)

Beavers & Cubs

Both sections have done a few joint activities over the summer term.

The Main one was the summer camp which took place on the 17th to 19th May at a campsite in Llysfaen, of which we had exclusive use for the weekend.

As it is Olympic year, the theme for the camp was sport with the Beavers doing their 'Sports' badge and the Cubs their 'Athletics' Badge.

Activities included Shot Put, Discus, Hammer throwing (wooden Mallet), Timed sprints and Relay races.

There was plenty of free time over the weekend for them to explore the site and do their own thing.

The weather couldn't have been better; dry, with plenty of sunshine.

June saw both sections visiting Flint Lifeboat station to learn about the work of the RNLI and meet some of the team, as part of their 200th anniversary. It was a good evening, and everyone enjoyed it.

The following week we went to the woodskills centre in Bodfari. Unfortunately, it wasn't a nice evening weather wise. It started off with a light drizzle, which turned into more persistent rain. This didn't seem to dampen their enjoyment though. They were quite happy trying to build dens, exploring the wood and toasting marshmallows in the rain.

The cubs finished the term off cooking on hike stoves. Mostly hot dogs, pasta and noodles. Though there was also some bacon and sausage around.

On their last evening the Beavers went to the Greenfield Valley.

Scouts

This year's Scout camp took place at the beginning of June, where we joined Treffynon Cyntaf, Halkyn mountain and Saltney Ferry Scouts for a joint camp at the Cheshire Forest Camp site.



Activities for the weekend included Raft Building, Archery, Air Rifle shooting, Pioneering and Orienteering. The weather was mostly good, although we did have heavy rain late afternoon, early evening, on the Saturday, which meant our planned campfire didn't go ahead.

The scouts did get an impromptu practical session in chopping logs with an axe as a result and we did eventually have a small campfire.

At the end of June, we had an evening at the woodskills centre where we did another practical session on the safe use of axes, as well as fire lighting.

At the beginning of July, Rob Jones took them mountain biking on Halkyn Mountain. The ride was tailored to suit all abilities. It was a nice evening for a ride, and everyone arrived back safely.

The following weeks activity was a circular walk where they were sent out in a small team to look for certain objects. The rain earlier in the day was supposed to have passed through by the time we were starting, but halfway through the session the heavens opened, and a quick decision was made to go and rescue everyone in cars. Most of them were soaked and it was hot drinks all round and the rest of the session trying to dry them out.

All sections start back again week beginning 9th September.

If anyone wants to gain some experience working with young people, why not come and join the team. You can learn some skills and have some fun at the same time.

If anyone is doing their Duke of Edinburgh award, why not join us to do the volunteering part, with one of our sections.

If anyone would like to get involved, or wants more information, please get in touch, or go to the Scouts' website (www.scouts.org.uk)

Russell Williams
Group Lead Volunteer
07936 197962

DRAINS UNBLOCKED FAST!

HIGH PRESSURE JETTING

DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL

SEPTIC TANKS

EMPTIED &

INSTALLED

FOR HIRE J C B FOR HIRE
TRACTORS* TRAILERS* DUMPERS* ROLLERS

Tel 01352 720995 or 07721 861209

I W HUGHES SERVICES

Waen Y Lloc, Lloc, Holywell. CH8 8RU

HEARTFELT ART AND CRAFT

FUNDRAISING CRAFT FAIRS AT

HALKYN PARISH HALL

10am - 3pm

Saturday 16th November 2024

Refreshments available

FREE PUBLIC ADMISSION!

For more details please contact:
Susan Parry-Harwood on 07770 813178 or
email: heartfelt.mountainstudio@aol.co.uk

WE NOW STOCK

STIHL®

Great range of products -
for all users and budgets
from **lawnmowers**,
chainsaws, **strimmers**,
leaf blowers and **hedgcutters**

GROUND CARE EXPERTS

SALES ■ SERVICE ■ PARTS

01745 571018 WWW.CLWYDAGRI.CO.UK

TERFYN BUILDINGS, CAERWYS ROAD, CWM, DYSETH, LL186HT



POLARIS

**Main dealers for
North Wales**

CLWYD
— AGRICULTURAL —



SCAN ME
to visit us online



The Druid Inn

GORSEDD, HOLYWELL, CH8 8QZ



12TH CENTURY COACHING INN SERVING GOOD HONEST FOOD

Nestled in the stunning village of Gorsedd, we're open seven days a week.

We're proud to serve good honest food, and a wide range of excellent beers, ales, spirits and wines. The pub has lots of cosy nooks and crannies, a private dining room, open fires, plus a spacious and beautiful beer garden - all perfect to relax and unwind in.

Come and visit, and enjoy food and drinks with us from midday, every day. You can book a table online or drop in. We look forward to welcoming you soon. *Cheers, Ray and the team*

OPENING TIMES

BAR

Mon - Sat 11:30am - 11pm

Sun 11:30am-10:30pm
(last orders at 10pm)

FOOD

Mon - Sat 12 - 9pm

Sun 12 - 8pm

CHRISTMAS

Keep an eye on our website
or social media for updates
on our Christmas plans



www.druidinn Gorsedd.co.uk

01352 746 367

info@druidinn Gorsedd.co.uk

Haven Gardens

Complete garden maintenance all year round

Fencing, turfing, hedge cutting, lawn cutting, pruning and scarifying for lawn moss control.

All aspects of landscaping:

- Domestic and commercial grass cutting
- All aspects of tree work
- All types of fences supplied and erected
- Fully insured



Free estimates, call Tony on – Tel: 01352 715875 Mob: 07880 923700
Whitford, Holywell, CH8 9AE

CASTLE TAXIS

GORSEDD

Over 25 years experience

**24 hour airport
& seaport transfers
and all general taxi work**

1 - 8 passengers

**Holywell
and all
surrounding areas**

Call Sean

01352 755666

07808 864098



adrian waters

chartered architect

01352 - 312669

adrian@adrianwatersarchitect.co.uk

www.adrianwatersarchitect.co.uk

old school house
rhes-y-cae, holywell
flintshire CH8 8JG

Adrian Waters

BAHons DipArch(Kingston) RIBA

07835 - 630724

BRIAN E JONES

ALL ASPECTS OF GARDEN WOODWORK UNDERTAKEN

SHEDS - SUMMERHOUSES - PLAYHOUSES - FENCING - GATES
DECKING - GARDEN FURNITURE - ANIMAL SHELTERS
Made to your specifications, delivered & erected

ALSO

OUTDOOR WOOD REFURBISHMENT & REPAIR

Tel: 01352 714547 Mobile: 07791 419911

V & M TYRES

NEW AND PART WORN

CAR, VAN & MOTORCYCLE
TYRE
SPECIALIST

EXHAUSTS, BATTERIES &
BRAKES

Call

MIKE 01352 714931

Unit 1
Dee Bank Ind Est
Bagillt
CH6 6HJ

vandmtyres@gmail.com
www.vandmtyres.co.uk

REjuvinATE.YOGA

bringing you fully qualified and insured instructors



Julie Roberts

Fully qualified & Insured Instructor.

Level 3 Fitness Yoga.

GP Exercise Referral.

Chair Yoga instructor.

IYN Qualification for Childrens Yoga.

Nutrition to Support Physical Exercise.

Water Fitness instructor.

Find me on Facebook - REjuvinATE.yoga or 07580118666

Mobile Hair and Beauty

by
Jane Barnes

**Covering Holywell
and surrounding areas.**

**To book an appointment
call me on: 07504144265**

20,000 BEES (Chris Dolphin)

A sunny afternoon in Carmel, and I hear and see a swarm of bees flying over the garden fence and into the front garden. Quite a sight, a thick swarm coming my way. First action, get inside and shut all doors and windows as a precautionary measure. Now, a good view of what is actually happening. It was a warm day, however I donned a coat and garden gloves just in case, and went to have a closer look outside. The bees must have a queen and were swarming and forming a hive in a shrub, just inches from the pavement. The bees are no danger, only have the queen, work and honey on there "to do list", but not ideal where they are at all.



Do I ring the Council, answer, no, it will take too long... quick Google and the Flint and District Beekeepers Association pops up, a phone call to a person who knows. "Kipper" Davies answers the call

and will be with me in half an hour - he wants those bees. Kipper is as good as his word and is on the pavement outside my house in full beekeeping suit. He tells me it's a reasonable swarm, 20,000. There can sometimes be up to 70,000, and they have probably followed the queen from a full hive, which may be local. Kipper gently shakes the formed swarm into the box, and most go immediately in, not all. He intends to leave the box in the shrub and call back later that night, that didn't quite work out as planned.

Kipper Davies drives off, however a short while later he is back; he had left his other keys and van lock in the back of his Ford Transit, and they had fallen off! A search begins, walking and driving the route just taken, nothing to find. Kipper looking no doubt suspicious is looking on grassland and under vehicles, and receives information that some local children had been asking "do you know who these keys belong to?"

A while later, it's identified the keys are safe in a house on Carmel Road. It took an hour and a half to sort the bee swarm out safely, and two and a half hours to retrieve the keys and lock.

Big Thanks, to young Carmel cyclist Bobby, Noah S, Noah W and Dan who found and kept the keys safe, and of course thanks to Beekeeper "Kipper" Davies for safely removing the bees and rehoming them.



Information – if a swarm of bees form a hive in your garden or property, contact the Flint and District Beekeepers Association, all contact bee information details are on their web page.

CS Plumbing & Heating SERVICES

Find us on Facebook



T 01352 710595
M 07836 216213
E csfishwick@aol.com



Holywell Leisure Centre
Canolfan Hamdden Treffynnon

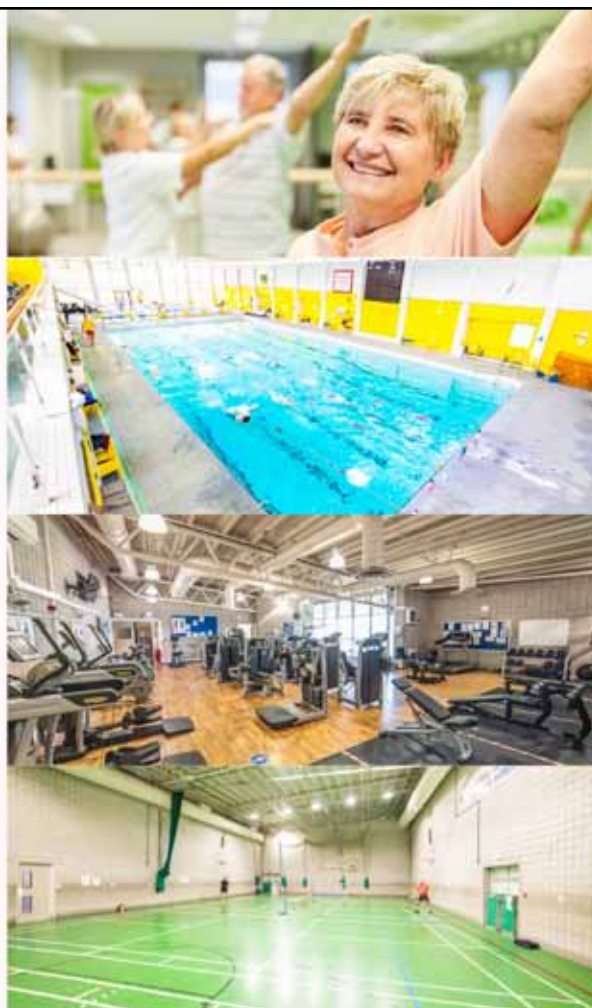
JOIN TODAY

MEMBERSHIPS FOR EVERYONE

GYM | SWIMMING | FITNESS CLASSES | RACQUET SPORTS

CALL US ON 01352 355 100
FOR MORE INFORMATION

CHARITY NO. 1170729 RHIF ELUSEN COFRESTREDIG



AUTUMN RECIPES (Isabel Burnage)

SWEET APPLE CHUTNEY

Ingredients

- 4 lb cooking apples - peeled and chopped
- 2 lb onions - peeled and thinly sliced
- 2 lb sugar
- 2 pints spiced vinegar
- 1 tsp. turmeric
- seasoning

Method

1. Put vinegar and onions in large pan and cook for about 12 minutes.
2. Add chopped apples and cook until soft.
3. Add sugar, turmeric and seasoning and simmer until nice and thick, stirring from time to time.
4. Ladle into sterilised jars and seal well.
5. Label including date. Store in cool, dry place. Keeps for up to a year. Once opened use within 4 weeks.
6. Serve with cheese and fresh, crusty bread.

CARDIGANSHIRE SAVOURIES

This is a tasty and easy recipe, quick to make

Ingredients

- 4 tbsp. rolled oats
- 4 tbsp. S.R. flour
- 6-8 tbsp. milk
- 1 tsp. salt

Method

1. Mix the dry ingredients in a bowl.
2. Add the milk and bind together to make a firm but soft mixture.
3. Shape the mixture into small cakes.
4. Fry in hot oil or bacon fat until lightly brown on both sides.
5. Serve with fried bacon and tomatoes.



Dimples
DOG GROOMING

☎ 07718613191

f Dimplesdoggrooming Bagillt

@ dimples_doggrooming




St Paul's Church, Gorsedd Available for Hire

**Suitable for Meetings, Training
Events and Functions**

**Facilities include Accessible
Toilet (with Baby Changing),
Kitchenette and Wi-Fi**

**All enquiries - contact Ian
on 01352 714740
07968 780153**

 **Follow us on St Paul's
Church, Gorsedd**



*Something
Soles*

SUE WILCOX MCFHP MAFHP

CALL TO BOOK NOW - 07455290253

TREATMENTS AVAILABLE:

- CORNS
- CALLUSES
- VERRUCAS
- NAIL TRIMMING
- CRACKED HEELS
- INGROWING TOENAILS
- FUNGAL NAIL
- DIABETIC FOOT HEALTH
- BASIC NEUROVASCULAR ASSESSMENT
- IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR HOME

**(45 MINUTE SESSIONS) MOBILE
INTRODUCTORY OFFER - £25**

**ALTERNATIVELY FIND ME ON FACEBOOK -
@SUETHINGSOLES**



Hair and nails



By Sam

01352 720328

Bron Haul

07825 525912

Lloc

CN8 8RG

KEN DAVIES PLUMBING

**For all your plumbing needs
A reliable friendly service
please call for a quote**

**Tel: 01352 711398
Mob: 07725 898221**

Ken.Davies.plumbing@mail.com

NEWS FROM GORSEDD AND WHITFORD CHURCHES



– ALL IS SAFELY GATHERED IN

Come ye thankful people come is a traditional and popular Harvest hymn and over the past few weeks, especially just before the rain has been forecast, our road has had local tractors going backwards and forwards collecting in the grass and silage for the animals' winter feed – safely gathered in before the storms. When the hymn was written, the life in winter of rural communities like ours depended entirely on a bountiful Autumn harvest. With supermarkets and freezers and international trade, we no longer even eat in season, never mind worry about generally having enough to eat. I was pondering the middle line of that hymn "God, our Maker doth provide, for our wants to be supplied", and was struck by the 'wants' rather than the 'needs'.

I have no doubt that creation is fully able to provide for us all, however, modern culture is much more about satisfying our individual 'wants', rather than working together for what the community together actually needs, and therefore there are gaps, with some having more, and others not having sufficient. Harvest is the perfect antidote to this, as it is a time when we come together to give thanks for what we have, and support those who do not have enough to eat. I am always overwhelmed by the generosity of people to share what they have with others. In addition to sharing our food, it is a good time to support our community churches as they have been a constant in our communities over the centuries.

This year, Whitford is holding a Thanksgiving Gift Day to coincide with Harvest, where we are asking people if they are willing to consider sharing their gifts of time, expertise and passions, not simply their monetary gifts (although with buildings to maintain, and activities to support the community, money is always helpful), do look out for a letter, or contact me if you would like to support us.

If you enjoy joining in with Harvest festivals in church, ours are being held

as follows: Gorsedd – 22nd September at 9:30am, and Whitford on 6th October at 11am and refreshments will be available after each service.

There are also new adventures on the horizon, our monthly coffee morning at St Paul's is growing and the fellowship has led us to look at new possibilities. I am excited to say that we are going to hold a bi-lingual Christmas service – a Gwaesanaeth Carolan Dwythieithog on 15th December at 4pm, in conjunction with Holywell Welsh Chapel with Lluniaeth tymhorol I ddilyn ar

ol (seasonal refreshments after ☺) – do join us as we celebrate the Christmas season together.

Before then, do keep an eye out for the various activities and services in both churches and a reminder that St Paul's, Gorsedd are holding their Artisan Fayre on 19th October between 11am and 2pm as we did last year. Do pop in if you are passing.

I hope to see many of you over the coming months, with every blessing.

Kathryn (Rev Kathryn Evans)



NEWFOCAS
The Therapeutic Fostering Provider

BECOME A FOSTER CARER

For NEWFOCAS and you will receive:

- Substantial Weekly Payments
- Direct, fully supported access to an established team of social workers 24/7
- Respite and Sessional Support Carer facilities
- Excellent Training.

You will need the following to be a NEWFOCAS foster carer:

- A Spare Bedroom
- Some child care experience
- A car and driving licence
- Basic computer skills

.....

If you are interested please contact **NEWFOCAS** for a chat on:

01244 550300

You can also visit our website for more information:
www.newfocas.co.uk

ST WINEFRIDE'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dosbarth Melyn

As part of our Dialogue and Encounter RVE topic, Dosbarth Melyn visited St Winefride's Church to learn more about our local parish community and church. We learnt about the beautiful stained-glass windows. Back in school, we designed our own stained-glass windows, taking inspiration from what we saw in church.



Dosbarth Coch

As part of our 'Seaside' topic Year 2 visited DangerPoint and Talacre Beach. We had a great day at DangerPoint and learnt lots of important safety tips such as how to stay safe around the house, on the roads, on the beach, on the internet and when we are shopping. We then enjoyed some time at Talacre Beach. We sketched the lighthouse, explored the beach and of course had some fun in the sand! We all had a great day.



Dosbarth Glas

To end the school year and their Superheroes topic, the Reception children of Dosbarth Glas attended a school

trip to Imagine That in Liverpool! They enjoyed exploring the world through STEM Education.



Estyn Inspection

Headteacher comment - Miss Sian Jones-Evans.

I am absolutely delighted with our Estyn report. The children were praised throughout the inspection for their positive attitudes and the pride they have in their school.

The staff work exceptionally hard, as do the governors and I am pleased that their hard work and our shared passion for the school community has been recognised.

Our Estyn report reflects a journey that many people over the years have been a big part of, and I am proud of each and every one of them.

Governor Comment - Mrs Mary Auty (Chair of Governors)

The Governing Body at St Winefrides is immensely proud that the school has received such an outstanding report from Estyn. It is not every day that a report states how proud and happy the children are to attend their school. The Governors know that this does not happen by chance, and

it requires dedication and hard work from our headteacher and all her staff, and we thank them for this.

Key Phrases from the Estyn report.

- The headteacher provides strong and effective leadership and is supported well by a dedicated team of staff and governors, who share her passion for the school and community.
- The support for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN) and those eligible for free school meals is provided by highly skilled staff and is a strength of the school.
- The positive and warm relationships that exist between staff, pupils and parents support pupils' well-being exceptionally well, and are a strength of the school.
- Pupils are proud of their school and talk positively about what it is like to be a pupil.
- They speak confidently about their learning and willingly share their knowledge and understanding of the school community with maturity and empathy.
- St Winefride's Catholic Primary School is a highly inclusive, caring and compassionate community where pupils and their families feel welcomed and valued. The quality of care, support and guidance for pupils is a strength of the school.
- Governors know and understand the school and its community well. They are highly supportive and have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities.
- The headteacher provides highly effective leadership that has a positive impact on pupils and their families. Leaders effectively communicate their vision for an inclusive school community, where pupils are at the centre, and have the support they need to 'learn and grow together in the love of Christ'. This strong sense of purpose is shared by all and is reflected in every aspect of the life of the school. The headteacher is well supported by a team of dedicated staff and together they ensure that St Winefride's is a primary school at the heart of the community.

GWYN R-JONES, ACIOB
Carpenter & Joiner

Tel: 01352 781438
Mobile: 07855 931344

Linden Cottage, Bwlch Road,
Rhes-y-Cae, Holywell, CH8 8IT

e-mail: gwyn.jones13@btopenworld.com



ALL TYPES OF BUILDING MAINTENANCE WORK

Disabled Ramps, Drives, Drain Work, Fascia Boards, Gutter Cleaning, Pressure Washing, Hedge Cutting, Fencing and Machine Work

No job too small • CRB check

Tel: 01352 710663
Mobile: 07564 376377

Happy Hounds by Helen



Helen Morris
Mobile Dog Groomer

Covering Flintshire and surrounding areas

Phone 01352711627
Mob 07979605467

www.themobiledoggroomroom.co.uk



Year 6 Leavers

We wished our lovely Year 6 good luck on the next part of their journey. We hope you will come back and visit us soon to let us know how you are getting on! We are very proud of you all and we know you will achieve amazing things. Congratulations also to Ella Allsopp and Lottie Cormack who won this years Angelo Feliciello Outstanding Achievement Award.



Holywell in Bloom School winners

Congratulations to Mrs Tallon and all of our lovely Eco club children who worked extremely hard to win the years Holywell in bloom Schools competition!!



London Trip

Over 30 of our year 5 and 6 children had

a fantastic trip to London in July. They all behaved brilliantly and experienced lots of new and exciting opportunities, including The London Eye, watching a west end show (Matilda) and visiting the Harry Potter Studios.



Enterprise Troopers

Over the last few months a group of year 4 and 5 pupils have been very busy setting up their own business. They chose what they would like to sell, completed market research, designed a logo and advertised their products. For the last 6 weeks we have been lucky enough to have 'Waffle Wednesday' at St. Winefride's. All Children and staff have been invited to bring £1 to purchase delicious waffles from our Enterprise Troopers. They have worked very hard and made an amazing profit which will be partly donated to charity and also used to buy equipment for the children in school. Well done everyone!!



Stephen Waterworth
Handyman Services



Garden & Property Maintenance

Mowing, Weeding, Hedge Cutting,
Gutter Cleaning & General Repairs around
your home & garden

Call or Text 07977111152

3 Parc Gorsedd, Gorsedd.

**FLINTSHIRE
FABRICATIONS
NERSE FARM
01352 711701**

Gates - Railing - Stairs etc.

*'Quality you thought
had disappeared'*

VINCENTIAN DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE & SAINT DAVID'S CHURCH, PANTASAPH (Father Paul, Parish Priest and Director of the Divine Retreat Centre, Pantasaph)

Across the area covered by the Five Villages Chronicle, we are fortunate to have a number of beautiful churches, each with their own historic story and memories for our residents and visitors, spanning numerous generations and centuries. Throughout this time, these churches have witnessed many changes, yet maintain their important, distinguished and highly valued presence amongst us.

I am grateful to have this opportunity to provide an overview of the Vincentian Divine Retreat Centre and Saint David's Roman Catholic Parish Church, located in the village of Pantasaph and extend a warm welcome to you all. Our many visitors describe this as being a place of peace.

The church was opened in October 1852 followed by completion of the array of buildings forming the friary (now Retreat Centre) in 1899 and the Pilgrim's Hall in the mid 1920s. From these dates, the Franciscan Capuchin community of friars built a distinguished role in Pantasaph, with their legacy maintained and progressed by the Vincentian Congregation from April 2022.



Saint David's Church and Retreat Centre

Visits to the inside of Saint David's Church are likely to positively reward you with something different on each occasion. Simply taking time to sit in the quiet and let your mind take you away with thoughts and private prayer can be restful. The vast stained-glass window behind the main altar is especially vibrant with sunshine but is equally impressive when seen in many other shades of lighting. Our weekly Masses, to which all are welcome (4.00 p.m. on Saturday and 10.00 a.m. on Sunday), feature hymns accompanied by the melodic sounds of the traditional church organ. You may notice the wooden-block flooring of the church – this was made using



Garden of Shrine to Saint Padre Pio of Pietrelcina

wood from the retreat centre grounds.

The extensive grounds feature the National Shrine and garden dedicated to Saint Padre Pio of Pietrelcina. This area includes vast seating for our outdoor services and is a beautiful and peaceful setting for quiet relaxation, private prayer and reflection.

Adjacent to the garden, passing through an arched gateway and taking the path to the left, leads you to one of the distinctive and popular areas of the grounds: Calvary – a steep hillside path (not suitable for people with mobility impairment and can be slippery) featuring the 14 Stations of the Cross. The top of the Mount stands Calvary itself – a large crucifix which is impressive on any occasion but especially to those making their first visit. The Calvary Walk is particularly popular during the season of Easter. On Good Friday, large crowds make the walk and celebrate the whole day at Pantasaph.

Alternatively, by walking through the arched gateway and taking the shorter path to the right, this will lead you to the Grotto dedicated to Our Lady of Lourdes, set against the hillside of Calvary. Another wonderful and peaceful place for quiet relaxation, private prayer and reflection.

If your visit is on a Saturday or Sunday, our Saint Pio and Saint Vincent Café is



Image of Saint Pio and Saint Vincent Café and Repository

normally open between 11.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. Our volunteers offer hot and cold drinks, cakes and other light refreshments. The café is a relaxed setting, whether inside or outside in the courtyard area. If you are interested in joining our café volunteers, please contact pantasaph@gmail.com.

Next to the café is our Repository, selling a range of prayer books, cards, statues and other gifts.

Pilgrim's Hall (the building to the right, next to the coach parking bays, as you enter from Monastery Road) provides a large open space which can be made available to hire for religious and social events (please be aware that alcohol cannot be served or consumed). To make an enquiry about using Pilgrim's Hall, please contact pantasaph@gmail.com.

Further information and details of our programme are available at www.pantasaph.org.

Our next major event will be the annual Saint Padre Pio and Saint Vincent Day on Saturday 21st September 2024, when several hundred people are anticipated to attend, travelling great distances (including on coaches) from around the country. Why not join us?

Thinking of Selling? Thinking of Letting?

Think of us!

PALMER

ESTATE AGENTS & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

- * **Competitive, all inclusive fees, with no 'hidden extras'**
- * **Qualified local staff in local offices**
- * **Internet advertising on 'Zoopla' and 'On The Market'**
- * **EPC Energy Assessor**
- * **Free weekly inspections of vacant properties**

2 Tower Gardens, Holywell, Flintshire, CH8 7TG

01352 713150 sales@palmerestateagents.co.uk

www.palmerestateagents.co.uk

Also at: 8 Brunswick Road, Buckley

Excellence through Experience

LLEUWEN STEFFAN

Lleuwen Steffan is a singer, songwriter and musician from Rhiwlas in Gwynedd. Now living in Brittany, she is returning to Wales for an intimate tour of Welsh folk hymnal music. This year she has performed at the Lorient Interceltique Festival.

She is a mother, speaker of Welsh, Breton, French and English, and besides writing and performing her own music, and unearthing and reviving music from the past, she also studies Theology.

Critics have described her as possessing a "voice of archetypal Welsh beauty – simultaneously heavenly and earthy – a true soul whammy."

Lleuwen wrote, "Welsh hymns resonate with me in ways that other music does not. They always have. They connect me. They have been present in all my albums in some shape or form so it's not surprising that I was so attracted to these unofficial traditional hymns when I came across them in 2012."

When she attended the sound archives at St. Fagan's Museum to listen to Welsh folk tunes it wasn't the recordings of folk tunes that caught her attention but it was the recordings of hymns that she had not seen in hymn books. After further research she learned that some of these hymns were not in old edition of hymn books either. No one knows who wrote them, but we know they were loved enough to be passed on from generation to generation.

Lleuwen goes on to say, "I will be there as a soloist with various instruments and pedals. It will be my pleasure to provide explanations and translations to audience members who do not understand Welsh. This work belongs to all of us and I'm here to share the lost Welsh folk hymns."

Three denominations in Wales have sponsored this tour and there will be a free entry for all. She will perform at Eglwys Gymraeg Bro Treffynnon (Holywell Welsh Chapel) on Thursday evening 21st November at 7p.m.



Griffiths & Hughes Parry

Friendly and Efficient Advice on
Legal Matters

Property Sales and Purchases

Family Matters

Commercial Sales and Purchases

7 Brynford Street,

Holywell CH8 7RD

Tel: 01352 711815

Email: geraint@ghpsolicitors.co.uk

Cranefield Decorators

est over 25 years

**paper hanging specialist
internal and external decorator
reduced rate for senior citizens**

phone 01745 270287

mobile 07722 139311

George Thurston
28 Bron Deg
Dyserth
LL18 6BG

PARK VIEW GARAGE

ESTABLISHED AUTOMOBILE ENGINEERS

Servicing • Repairs • MOT Testing

Computer Diagnostics

Air Conditioning

Clutches & Flywheels

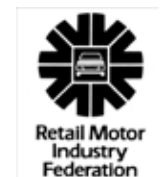
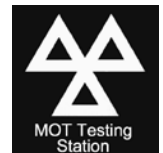
Our customers can book MOTs online at:

www.motholywell.co.uk

www.parkviewgarage.co.uk

☎ 01352 720205

LLOC • HOLYWELL • FLINTSHIRE • CH8 8RX



WIRRAL FUELS



**DOMESTIC, COMMERCIAL & FARM FUELS
LOGS & COAL**

01244 851200

www.wirralfuels.co.uk

**HEATING OIL - BEST SERVICE - COMPETITIVE
PRICES**


Taylor Made
 Window Cleaning Services.....

**Advanced water fed pole system
 & traditional methods**

Est. 2009
Fully insured
Free quotes

☎ 01352 714853
 ☎ 07974 518779 

Moore & son
 (Holywell) Limited

Central Heating Engineers
 & Domestic Plumbers

Mobile: 07831 560300
 mooreandson10@btinternet.com

OFTEC registered 

 **GAS SAFE registered**

**TAKE CONTROL
 OF YOUR
 WEEKENDS**

*Let us do all the jobs
 you've been putting off*

- Pantasaph Based
- Gutter Cleaning
- Drain & Gully Cleaning
- Plumbing Jobs
- Kitchens Fitted
- Emergency Repairs
- Bathrooms Fitted
- Painting & Decorating
- Carpentry & Joinery
- Install & Assembly Service
- Washing Machines Fitted
- Tumble Dryers Fitted
- No Job Too Small

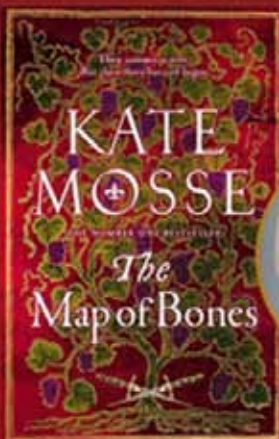

RENT 0747 045 6432
HANDYMAN


AUTUMN WITH AURA LIBRARIES!

(Paula Jones)

Coming Soon to Mold Library

Aura Libraries and Mold Bookshop are delighted to welcome bestselling novelist Kate Mosse to Mold Library. Tickets are available from The Bookshop and online 33 High Street, Mold website www.mold-bookshop.co.uk contact info@moldbookshop.co.uk


The Mold Bookshop
 Join us for a talk and book signing with bestselling novelist
KATE MOSSE
 to celebrate her new novel
The Map of Bones
 in
 Mold Library, Earl Rd. Mold
 November 6th @ 7pm Doors open @ 6.30pm
 Tickets from £5.00 Refreshments included
www.mold-bookshop.co.uk



Learn more this Autumn

Aura libraries and Adult Community learning invite you to attend the following Free courses. You have to be over 19 and live in Flintshire or Wrexham.

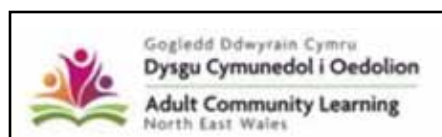
Customer Services Level 2 : Thursday 5th September 10-2 Mold Library

Mental Health Awareness Level 2 : Friday 6th September 9.30-3.30 Connah's Quay Library

Emergency First Aid Level 3 : Thursday 10th October 9.30-3.30 Mold Library

Food Hygiene Level 2 : Monday 14th October 9.30-3.30 Flint Library

To book on any of the above FREE courses email ACL@aura.wales



Aura Home Library Service



We feel passionately that all Flintshire residents should be able to access and enjoy a library service. Aura Home Library Service is free and delivers library books across Flintshire to customers who are unable to get to their local library for reasons such as: disability, limited mobility, illness, or caring responsibilities.

We will select a collection of books based upon your personal preferences, these can be in whatever format you require.

To register a friend, relative or yourself for the service email libraries@aura.wales or contact 01352 704400.

Aura Mobile Library Service

Aura mobile library service visits villages across Flintshire on a three weekly visit where it is difficult for residents to access our static libraries.

Residents can use their current library card or join the library on board the Aura mobile. The mobile library carries a selection of books suitable for all ages, including large print and audio books in English and Welsh and our junior members can participate in the Summer Reading Challenge.

Any item in stock anywhere in North Wales can also be provided on request.

For further information on where the mobile visits email libraries@aura.wales or visit our website www.aura.wales we look forward to welcoming you on board!

Croeso! Grŵpiau Sgwrsio Cymraeg
 Welcome! Welsh Conversational Groups

Are you learning Welsh? Or want to join a conversational Welsh group?

Holywell Library have a conversational group session on the 1st and 3rd Friday of every month at 2.00pm.

These sessions are a friendly and relaxed space for Welsh learners and speakers to socialise and build confidence. A very warm welcome awaits you all!

For more information, contact libraries@aura.wales

FREE! Weekly Activities at Holywell Library

Join us at these activities in Holywell library every week, for further information please contact the library 01352 703850 or email holywell.library@aura.wales

Lego Club	Monday 10.00-11 & 3.30-4.30
Rhymetime	Tuesday 10.00 – 10.30
Drawing/Games Club	Tuesday 3.30 – 5.30
Lego Club	Saturday 10.00-11.00
Welsh Conversational Group	First and Third Friday of the month 2.00pm

Holywell Library: Adult 'Make and Meet' Workshop

Held on the last Wednesday of the month our 'Make and Meet' sessions in Holywell Library are open to all, come along and create a craft item and meet fellow crafters.

All sessions are £3.00 per adult with refreshments included.

Contact Holywell Library 01352 703850 to book your seat at the crafty table.

Citizen Advice Bureau

Looking for help or guidance a representative from Citizen's Advice is available at Holywell Library from 9. 30a.m. every Tuesday morning.

HOSPITAL CHILDREN'S WARD FUND RAISER (Colin Henney)

Luca Thomas (aged 9) of Gorsedd, has been raising funds by selling plants for the Children's Ward at the Bodelwyddan Hospital.



Luca selling plants from his front garden

Over spring and summer this year, Luca has been growing plants and cuttings for sale from his front garden. Luca used some of his own pocket and Birthday money to buy young plants and seeds.

Since a previous admission to the hospital and ongoing visits, as a way of thanking the staff, Luca came up with the idea of raising funds by selling plants. Luca started growing plants last year and now has a small greenhouse for the seedlings. He has successfully grown a variety of tomato, flower and vegetable plants, tending and watering them daily.

Luca finally raised £173 which was presented to the Children's Ward in the summer.



Luca presenting funds to Glan Clwyd hospital Children's ward

Luca will be commencing plant growing again next year and hopes to beat the amount he raised this year.

Luca's family are all very proud of his fundraising achievement and wish him luck for next year.



**HEATING & ELECTRICAL
—NEEDS LTD—**

**Electrical Work inc Gas, LPG, Oil Boiler service,
installation, and breakdowns
Service and maintenance of Aga, Rayburn, Stanley gas and oil
Leisure certificates
Cookers & fires service, repair, and installations
Landlord certificates / Homeowner certificates
Kitchen installations
Bathrooms
Commercial catering
General plumbing
Domestic and Commercial Gas**



01745 563225

info@heatingelectricalneedsLtd.co.uk



Milwr Tree Service

Established 1986

- NPTC qualified workforce
- All aspects of tree work undertaken
- Woodchipper hire with operator
- Woodchip for sale

Tel: 01352 711606

Mobile: 07779 783260

BRYN FELIN, PENTRE HALKYN, HOLYWELL,
FLINTSHIRE. CH8 8JU





**CYNGOR CYMUNED
CHWITFFORDD
WHITFORD COMMUNITY
COUNCIL
(Phillip Parry, Clerk)**

**Whitford Community Councillors:
Names of Councillors and contact
telephone numbers:**

Tim Barks - 01352 720375
Richard Dolphin - 07526 515873
Billy Glynn - 01352 712418
Caradoc W. Jones - 01352 712079
Matt Marshall - 07763 975531
Gareth Sharp - 01352 715614
Paul Urquhart - 01745 563133
Melanie Wallis - 01352 712369
Emma Warbrick - 01352 712356
Steve Watts - 07778 673334
Joseph Williams - 07850 924805

**The following crimes have been
reported to the North Wales Police
over the past three months, that have
occurred within the Community Council
area:**

Carmel - 5 x Violence
Gorsedd - 2 x Violence
Lloc - 5 x Violence
Lloc (Services) – 1 x Burglary / 1 x
Public Order
Pantasaph - 2 x Anti social behaviour /
1 X Violence

**Whitford - No crimes reported
VEHICLE SPEEDING CONCERNS
REPORTED TO COUNCIL:**

The Community Council have received notification in relation to a high volume of vehicles apparently exceeding the speed limit on Llwyn Ifor Lane, with a suggestion the traffic is visiting a nearby leisure site. County Councillor Chris Dolphin has advised that he would arrange a site meeting in the area with County Highways together with a representative from a local business. The Go-Safe team have been asked to include the area in their enforcement schedule.

Concern has also been received by the Community Council in relation to high volume of vehicles apparently exceeding the speed limit on the A5026 Road in Carmel (near area of former Halfway House). County Councillor Chris Dolphin will also discuss this with County Highways. The Go-Safe team have been asked to include the area in their enforcement schedule.

**RED K6 TELEPHONE BOX IN
WHITFORD:**

The Community Council were pleased to receive a number of hand drawings from pupils at Ysgol Y Llan in Whitford, with suggestions as to the future use of the Red Telephone Box in Whitford Village following the adoption by Whitford Council. It was noted that the majority of pupils suggested the former phone box be used as an information centre and bookstore. The Council have written to a local society seeking their views for items to be placed in the phone box.

**CARMEL & WHITFORD PRIMARY
SCHOOLS – ENVIRONMENTAL
PROJECTS:**

The Community Council have provided funding of £2,500.00 to Ysgol Bro Carmel and £2,500.00 to Ysgol Y Llan in Whitford – towards environmental projects at the schools. The retiring headteacher at Ysgol Bro Carmel advised the Council 'The funding will be utilised for an environmental wildflower project which will provide the pupils with first hand experience of a natural habitat and enhance their understanding of the importance of caring for our environment'.

The retiring headteacher at Ysgol y Llan in Whitford advised 'The project will be the development of a wildflower area. The area will be used to give the children first-hand experience of caring for our community. The funds will be of tremendous benefit and make a significant difference to the children and biodiversity'

**LITTER PICKING AND GRASS
CUTTING CONTRACTS:**

Following receiving a number of quotations the Community Council have taken out two contracts for litter picking and grass cutting within the Council area. Whilst the litter picking will cover the roadsides within all the villages in the Council area, the grass cutting will be completed on registered public footpaths and will be co-ordinated with Flintshire County Council to provide additional cuts during the summer season.

CO-OPTED COUNCILLOR:

Sandra Roberts was co-opted onto the Community Council in July following publication of Public Notices. Councillor Roberts resides in the Whitford area and will take the Declaration of Acceptance of Office at the September Council meeting.

COMMUNITY AWARD - 2024:

The Whitford Community Council were pleased to receive a nomination for a Community Award in the name of Russell Williams, which highlighted his voluntary service to the area, and in particular, for his work with the local Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. Russell will attend the September meeting of the Community Council to collect his award, whereafter a full report will be included in the next edition of the Five Villages Chronicle.

**WHITFORD CHILDREN'S PLAY
AREA:**



The upgrade to the play area will be match funded between Whitford Community Council and Flintshire County Council at a cost of £20,000.00 (£10,000.00 provided by each Council).

The Community Council received from Aura Leisure (Flintshire County Council) a report advising that additional children's play area equipment was required in the Whitford play area, including general upgrade to the ground surface. Following a joint site meeting with Councillors the Community Council received formal plans which were agreed by full Council.

The work will consist of the installation of an adventure trail and upgraded rubber mulch surfaces in the areas of existing equipment. The sand area is subject to further discussion.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS BROUGHT
THE FOLLOWING CONCERNS,
AND OTHER MATTERS TO THE
ATTENTION OF FLINTSHIRE
STREET SCENE:**

(1) Monastery Road in Pantasaph: Protruding hedge causing difficulty for a local resident with a perambulator. The hedge commences from the former Fielding Arms towards the junction to Babell and Gorsedd (2) Gorsedd Road: Pothole – across from Llys Orsedd. This was filled in some two weeks ago but is defect again (3) Glol Woods: Broken Rights of Way gate entrance (4) One Way Street - Former Rock Inn to Pant Y Wacco. Deep pothole (has caused a concern to a local cyclist) (5) Request for a new litter bin in Gorsedd – in the area of the Druids Inn Crossroads (6) Carmel Road, Carmel. As there is no pavement in parts, pedestrians have no alternative but to walk along the highway and risk injury due to the condition of the road (Concern raised by a member of the public) (7) Holway to Whitford Road: Hedges require cutting back. The hedges protrude into the road which creates a danger for the many pedestrians who use this road. Vehicles are apparently scratched by the foliage (8) Llwyn Ifor Lane: The hedges in this narrow lane require cutting back. The branches protrude into the road which creates a danger for the many pedestrians who use this narrow road (9) Waen Hill: Roadside grass verges require cutting back (10) Pantasaph - from Carmel Hill area to the Friary exit. Repair work carried out to potholes which have now become hilly. A number of complaints

have been received from local residents who are concerned with possible damage to their vehicles

PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

The Community Council Members provide their observations to the Flintshire Planning Authority on all planning applications received within their community. Full details of the observations made can be viewed in the Minutes of each Council meeting, which are displayed on the Council web site, or from the Clerk – as per details below:

(1) Application number: FUL/000084/24 – for amendment to submitted application for extension to existing access, including two metre high boundary wall and new field gate, at Groesffordd, Llwyd Ifor Lane, Whitford (2) Application number: FUL/000341/23 – for amendments to submitted – for the demolition of a previous two-storey extension and replacement with a new two-storey extension along with associated internal layout alterations, a new first floor extension, new raised timber decking, relocation of the driveway entrance and a detached, single-storey pitched-roof garage, at Pickpocket Hall, Babel Road, Pantasaph.

PLANNING DECISIONS:

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

(1) Application number: FUL/001011/23 – for Steel Storage Shed for animal holding and equipment & new access Sarn Mill, Sarn, Whitford. Approved (2) Application number: NMA/000715/23 - for non-material amendment following grant of previous planning application, at Pennant Park Golf Club, Mertyn Downing Lane, Mostyn. Approved (3) Application number: LDP/000380/24 – for erection of garden office and shed, at the Meadows, Tan Y Lloc Lane, Lloc. Approved (4) Application number: FUL/000084/24 - To upgrade the existing access into a five-meter-wide drive access into the prop Groesffordd, Llwyn Ifor Lane. Refused (5) Application number: LDP/000336/24 – for replacement fencing, at Land Adj to Village View, Carmel Road, Carmel. Approved

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND DONATIONS:

The Community Council has granted the following financial assistance since the last edition of the Five Villages Chronicle: £200.00 - Llangollen International Eisteddfod (Application for annual grant) / £250.00 - Caerwys Agricultural Show (Application for annual grant) /

R. Phillip Parry
Clerk & Financial Officer to Whitford Community Council
Tel: 01352 720547
E-mail: clerk@whitford-council.wales
Web site: www.whitford-council.wales



Happy Bees Accountancy Service

*Accounts, Tax, VAT, PAYE &
Book-keeping*

June Reece CTA ATT AAT

4 Roseneath View
Bagillt
CH6 6EG

01352 375897
07739 574777
junereece@outlook.com



THE 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 on the third Tuesday of the month. Talks start at 7.30pm. Doors open from 7pm for plant sales and raffle tickets. Visitors welcome £3 per meeting.

Tuesday 17th September, Late Herbaceous Perennials, Don Whitton

Don is holder of a Plant Heritage National Collection of Euphorbia; author of the Euphorbia HPS booklet; has featured on BBC Gardener's World and in numerous magazines including RHS The Garden. His talk will be about a sumptuous array of perennials which give of their best from midsummer to October, including numerous examples of the more colourful and fashionable genera. Don will bring plants for sale.

Tuesday 15th October, 'A Year in John Massey's Garden', Nigel Hopes

In this talk, Nigel provides a Head Gardener's behind the scenes tour of John Massey's Private Garden at Ashwood Nurseries, in the West Midlands with highlights through the year and plenty of practical advice. No two talks of this title are the same as John's garden has changes every year. Plants for sale.

Tuesday 12th November, 'The World in One Garden', Barry Grain


Barry has been Head Gardener at Cholmondeley Castle Gardens in Malpas, Cheshire since February 2013. This tailored talk focusses on some of the named plants in the gardens illustrated with close-up photographs. He will tell us about many new and exciting projects, some completed, and some planned for the coming years.


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


HANNAH BLYTHYN ^{MS}


Member of the Senedd for Delyn
Aelod o'r Senedd dros Delyn


 hannah.blythyn@senedd.wales
52 High Street, Mold
52 Stryd Fawr, Yr Wyddgrug
CH7 1BH

 01352 753464

 www.hannahblythyn.cymru

 HannahBlythynForDelyn

 @HannahBlythyn

 Hannah_Blythyn

 **HANNAH BLYTHYN**
STANDING FOR THE COMMUNITY THAT SHAPED ME

This ad has been funded by the Senedd Commission from public funds.
Mae'r hysbyseb hwn wedi'i gyllido gan Gomisiwn y Senedd o gronfeydd cyhoeddus



Thomas Pennant Lecture Darlith Thomas Pennant 2024



Moses Griffith, Pennant's Fellow Traveller
Moses Griffith, Cyd - delithiwr Pennant

With/Efo
Dr Goronwy Wynne
Darlith Saesneg – English Lecture

Holywell Library Llyfrgell Treffynnon
Thursday, September 26th Dydd Iau, Medi 26ain

At/Am 7.00pm

Tickets/Ticedi: £3.00 from the library (at the Leisure Centre)
Phone/Ffôn: 01352 703850



Enquiries/ymholiadau –
Chairperson/Cadeirydd- Norman Closs – Parry 01352 711036



Carmel Christian Church
Sunday evenings
6pm - 7pm

Followed by free refreshments after service
A time to relax, chat or ask questions

FED UP? WORRIED? SCARED?
FEEL LIKE GIVING UP?

COME AND HEAR THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT JESUS.
HE MAKES SENSE OF THIS COMPLEX LIFE
HE GIVES PURPOSE TO LIFE
HE GIVES A CERTAIN HOPE FOR THE FUTURE.

**JESUS SAID: COME TO ME ALL WHO ARE TIRED AND
CARRYING A HEAVY LOAD AND I WILL GIVE
YOU REST. MATT 11:28**

 07638 430440
 carmelchristianchurch23@gmail.com
 Carmel Christian Church Flintshire
 Carmel Christian Church Flintshire



CM
Plumbing &
Heating
07802 629698

**“Bringing Unmatched Expertise in
Plumbing and Heating”**

If you're looking for an experienced and reliable plumber,
dedicated to customer service then look no further than
CM Plumbing and Heating.

Competitive prices. Services include:

- *Routine Maintenance
- *New bathrooms
- *Emergency help
- *Any small jobs like hanging a radiator or changing taps
- *All aspects of plumbing and heating

Contact : Callum Mallin tel: 07802 629698

email: CMPlumbingandHeating0@outlook.com

MARK ISHERWOOD MS



A stroke is a serious life-threatening medical condition that happens when the blood supply to part of the brain is cut off. Strokes are a medical emergency and urgent treatment is essential. They are the fifth single leading cause of death in Wales and the single largest cause of complex disability.

There are over 70,000 stroke survivors living in Wales, and an estimated 7,400 people in Wales experience a stroke each year.

Stroke is estimated to cost NHS Wales £220 million annually, and for all sectors of the Welsh economy this is a combined cost of £1.63 billion, equivalent to £45,409 per patient in the first year. This cost is forecast to rise to £2.8bn by 2035 if no action is taken to mitigate against this.

Earlier in this summer, I was pleased to sponsor and open the Wales Stroke Association Summit in the Senedd.

The event is an annual gathering for both people who work in the Stroke sector and those who are affected by Stroke to hear what the Stroke Association in Wales has been working on, celebrate achievements and hear about their plans for the next year.

In my speech, I referred to a recent report by Healthcare Inspectorate Wales on their "National Review of Patient Flow: a journey through the Stroke pathway" which highlighted that, in Wales, stroke provision and outcomes have been in decline since 2019. I also said the Stroke Association is working to support a reduction in the number of Strokes in Wales, and to improve support for stroke survivors and their families across the whole Stroke pathway.

I referred to the wide range of services for stroke survivors, their carers and families delivered by the Stroke Association, which include commissioned services in five Local Health Boards, 44 stroke groups which are a part of the Stroke Group Network, and universal Stroke Association support services such as their helpline, website and publications.

Other provisions offered in Wales include group volunteer forums and campaigns forums.

These forums ensure that the voice of lived experience is at the heart of all their services and activities. They also work closely with Local Health Boards, the

Welsh Ambulance Service University Trust, Local Authorities, Welsh Government and other key stakeholders to drive forward improvements and better outcomes for people affected by stroke.

In my speech, I referred to my visit last year to Buckley Stroke Group with the Stroke Association to learn about their experience of stroke. Issues raised with me by Stroke Survivors there included lack of joined-up care, although professionals were kind and caring; having a Stroke in England, but not being told what was available when they returned to Wales; trouble getting through to GPs; not being told what happens to you when you have a Stroke; and, when asking their GP if they can see a Stroke Specialist, being told 'Get me a name, and I will refer you'.



Speaking in the Senedd/Welsh Parliament after my visit, I referred to the Stroke Programme Board's planned engagement on the future of Stroke Services and asked the then First Minister how he will ensure that the voices of Stroke Survivors and Carers are heard and involved in the co-production of this work.

I am a member of the Cross-Party Group on Stroke in the Senedd, which

was re-established in October 2023. The Group facilitates discussion between Senedd Members, medical professionals, charities and those affected by Stroke. It also works to identify ways to improve Stroke outcomes, and the experience of people affected by Stroke in Wales, and to drive this change through campaigning and influencing.

In November 2022, I led a Debate on Stroke Services, when I stated: 'The Stroke Association has also called for a renewed FAST campaign - Face, Arms, Speech, Time - by Public Health Wales, to improve awareness of stroke symptoms and urge those experiencing these to call 999 as soon as possible', where 'Acting FAST gives the person having a stroke the best chance of survival and recovery'.

I emphasised that 'the FAST campaign was last run in Wales in 2018 but was run in both England and Northern Ireland in 2021', and analysis of the campaign in England found that it was highly cost effective. I was therefore pleased to back a motion in the Senedd last November calling for a biennial Act FAST campaign in Wales. The motion proposed that the Act FAST campaign is run every two years in Wales.

The Act FAST campaign urges people to remember the acronym F.A.S.T. when spotting potential stroke symptoms:

Face – has their face fallen on one side? Can they smile?

Arms – can they raise both arms and keep them there?

Speech – is their speech slurred?

Time – even if you're not sure, call 999.

If you spot any of these signs, even for a short time, it's important you take action.

For further information on Strokes and the support that is available for patients and their families visit: <https://www.stroke.org.uk/>

INDEPENDENT FAMILY FIRM ESTABLISHED OVER 100 YEARS...



J. E. Davies & Son
(Proprietor: Edward Davies, DipFD)
Funeral Directors



Full Monumental Services at Delyn Memorials

2 Halkyn Street,
HOLYWELL
Tel: (01352) 712203

Ffynnon y Cyff,
LIXWM
Tel: (01352) 741265

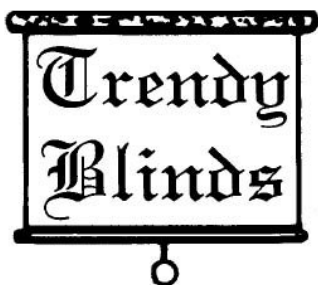
1 - 3 Halkyn Street,
FLINT
Tel: (01352) 733833

High Street,
BAGILLT
Tel: (01352) 732146

90 Wrexham Street,
MOLD
Tel: (01352) 700155

50 High Street,
CONNAHS QUAY
Tel: (01244) 831774

163 Mold Road,
BUCKLEY
Tel: (01244) 548197



SHOWROOM

16 Tower Gardens,
HOLYWELL. CH8 7TG
Tele/Fax 01352 710908

www.trendyblinds.net

**Verticals, Rollers, Venetian, Velux,
Pleated and Wooden Blinds.
Wide choice of colours and designs.
Choose from your own home.**

Free quotations, no obligation.
Domestic & Commercial.
All enquiries welcome.

Os ydych eisiau cyfle i ymarfer eich
Cymraeg, neu angen magu hyder i'w siarad
yna ymunwch â ni -
SIAWNS AM SGWRS
Capel Bethel Caerwys.
Bob nos Sul 6pm - 7pm.
Cost £3

If you are an advanced Welsh learner or
if you would like an opportunity to practice
your Welsh, or you need to regain your
confidence speaking it, then please join us for
a CHANCE TO CHAT.

Cysylltwch â / For details contact
ENYS EVANS 07778 288 156
Croeso cynnes / A warm welcome
awaits!



**If you manage a local business and would like
to advertise in the Five Villages Chronicle,
please contact our Advertisements Manager,
Melanie Wallis (01352 712369) or email
adverts5villages@yahoo.com**

NEXT EDITION

Our next edition will be published
on 7th December 2024 and the
submission deadline for that edition
will be 8th November 2024.

FACEBOOK - LIKE US? LET US KNOW!

We have a new Facebook page that you can use to submit comments, feedback, short articles and any other snippets of information.
Visit www.facebook.com/5villageschronicle/ or search '5Villages Chronicle'.
If you enjoy this edition, please click the 'like' button to let us know!

**Please note our email address:
editor@5villages.org.uk**



THE FIVE VILLAGES CHRONICLE ASSOCIATION

Established in 1986, the Five Villages Chronicle Association publishes the *Five Villages Chronicle*, a quarterly community magazine which is delivered to most households in the Flintshire villages of Carmel, Gorsedd, Lloc, Pantasaph and Whitford, with 1,300 copies of each edition currently being printed and distributed by a dedicated team of volunteers.

Chairman - Peter Erasmus (01352 746896); Secretary - Melanie Wallis (01352 712369); Treasurer - Bob Brown (01352 710967); Advertisements - Melanie Wallis (01352 712369); Distribution - Chris Dolphin (01352 713415); Jonathan Duggan-Keen, Terry Ireland, Robert Moore. At present there is an editorial committee.

We do have a web page where previous issues may be downloaded at www.5villages.org.uk

Published with the support of Whitford Community Council, commercial enterprises and residents. The Five Villages Chronicle Association does not accept responsibility for, nor necessarily agree with, any of the views expressed, statements or claims made in articles or advertisements herein.

Please send any articles, photographs, comments, snippets of information or local humour, details of births, marriages, deaths, graduations, emigrations and other events and achievements to editor@5villages.org.uk or post: FVC, Bodlondeb, Chapel Street, Caerwys, Flintshire, CH7 5AE (01352 720477).

Please send original prints, not photocopies; all pictures and photographs will be returned. Though contributors can choose to remain anonymous in the publication, we will not publish material without knowing the name and contact details of contributors. Previous editions of the Five Villages Chronicle are available to view at the Flintshire Record Office, Hawarden and at the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth.

**'IF YOU DON'T COLLECT ME, PASS ME ON TO A FRIEND (OR THE LIBRARY); AND WHEN YOU'RE ALL FINALLY
FINISHED WITH ME, PLEASE RECYCLE ME'**

CARMEL VILLAGE HALL



(Richard Dolphin)

The Old Loved Hall continues to be a focal point of our 5 Villages community. Given the original structure of the building is now 162 years old and the remarkable use of its facilities, it is important the Hall has a period of rest for maintenance, upgrades and restoration. Annually this occurs during the 'Summer Term School Holidays' in July and August.

Local business Rejuvenate and local residents, Julie and Vinnie, have been busy supporting the Hall with exterior painting. The Trustees are immensely proud of the works undertaken, and as you can see from the pictures a fresh coat of paint really brings out the best in our community meeting place, whilst offering a fresh and modern appearance.



The Trustees are still seeking fundraising volunteers who are passionate, reliable, and willing to be actively involved at Hall events. The Monthly Coffee Morning is the main fundraising event at present and we are seeking a leader (or leaders) to take charge. However new fundraising volunteers can also offer and develop new opportunities – so what could you do, or what would you like to do to support your local meeting place?

If you are interested and would like to discuss further, please contact Hall Secretary, Chris Dolphin, on 01352 713415 or email chris_dolphin@hotmail.co.uk. Also, for regular updates about the groups, hall availability and upcoming events then check out the Carmel Village Hall Facebook page – www.facebook.com/carmelvillagehall or contact Chris Dolphin on the details above.

Monday		
10am – 12:30pm	Papercraft Group	Weekly
6:15 – 7:45pm	Cubs	Weekly – Term Time
Tuesday		
1:30 – 4pm	Craft Group	Weekly
7:30 – 9pm	Scouts	Weekly – Term Time
Wednesday		
8:30 – 10am	Tea & Toast with Carmel Christian Church	Weekly – Term Time
2 – 4pm	FCC Meeting	1 st & 2 nd Wednesday
4:45 – 5:45pm	Rainbows	Weekly – Term Time
6 – 7:15pm	Brownies & Girl Guides	Weekly – Term Time
7:45 – 8:45pm	Yoga with Julie	Weekly
Thursday		
1 – 4pm	Gardening Club	1 st Thursday
10am – 12pm	Coffee Morning	2 nd Thursday
1 – 3pm	Yoga with Julie	2 nd , 3 rd & 4 th Thursday
6:30 – 7:30pm	Beavers	Weekly – Term Time
7 – 9:30pm	Carmel WI	2 nd Thursday
Friday		
9:30 – 10:30am	Sleepy Cubs & Baby Massage	Weekly
11 – 11:45am	Baby Bears – Birth to Walking	Weekly
12:15 – 1pm	Little Teds – Movers Class	Weekly
2 – 4pm	Tai Chi & Qi Gong	Weekly
5 – 7:30pm	Irish Dancing	Weekly
Sunday		
5:30 – 7:30pm	Carmel Christian Church	Weekly

ORIEL GLASFRYN GALLERY

Welsh Art & Craft

Paintings, Jewellery, Ceramics, Sculpture, Glass, Textiles, Wood & Metalwork



Open 10am–5pm Wednesday–Saturday & 10am–4pm Sunday & Bank Holidays
Just off Junction 31, A55, Caerwys, Mold, Flintshire CH7 5AF

www.orielglasfryn.com



Handyman

**SHELTING
TV BRACKET MOUNTING
PLUMBING REPAIR
BATHROOM FITTING
FLOORBOARD REPAIR
RESEALING BATHS**

**FLAT PACK ASSEMBLY
WINDOW BLINDS & CURTAIN RAILS
HANDRAIL INSTALLATION
GARDENS & FENCING
KITCHEN FITTING
AND MUCH MORE....**

01352 716601
Mobile: 07922138759

Email: info@rpm-handyman.co.uk

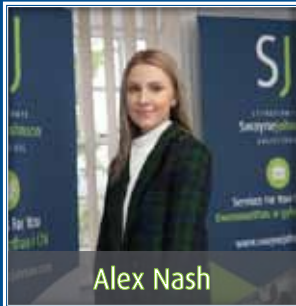


Our Mold office is now OPEN

Meet the Team



Lisa Harbour



Alex Nash



Sally Johnson



Emily Brayford



Bethan Hughes

Now at: 2 New
Street, Mold,
Flintshire, CH7 1NZ

Call us on: 01352 871960
Find us on:



Buying & Selling Property
Wills, Trusts & Estates
Civil Litigation
Family
Commercial
Power of Attorney
Court of Protection

Here to serve the community of **Mold** and **Beyond**

Visit us at: www.swaynejohnson.com
E-mail us at: law@swaynejohnson.com



CYFREITHWYR
SwayneJohnson
SOLICITORS