



(Hillcrest)

ABERHAFESP

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Winter 2018/2019 Edition

This is our third issue. So far all comments from residents have been very positive, thank you. I am still hoping to receive more email addresses from you so that we can keep printing costs to a minimum. As you can see we now have some advertisements from local businesses which will go some way towards paying for the printing.

I do hope you all had a good Christmas and send Happy New Year wishes for 2019. Please let me know of any interesting village details or events you would like to have included in future publications. *Editor*

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Celebrating
40 *Years*

Saturday 23rd February 10am-12noon

Saturday evening in April (tbc) 7pm

Sunday morning in April/May (tbc)

Sunday Lunch (end of June - tbc)

Coffee Morning

In aid of the Welsh Air Ambulance Service

Italian themed Meal and Quiz

Car Boot Sale

**40th Anniversary celebration
of the opening of the
Community Centre**

200 CLUB

The Winter draw took place at the Xmas Spectacular on Saturday 8th December and the lucky winners were:

£100 Mrs. Mary Turpin, Tregynon

£50 David Jones, Aberhafesp

£50 Ioan Willson, Aberhafesp

£50 Charlie Bebb, Aberhafesp

£25 Clare Daley, Aberhafesp

£25 Hettie & Hugo Pryce, Aberhafesp

£25 Will Williams, Tregynon

£25 John Day, Bwlch-y-ffridd

£25 Mr & Mrs Gary Griffiths, Bwlch-y-ffridd

£25 Liz Davies, Tregynon

£15 Mr & Mrs Fleming, Aberhafesp

£15 Melanie & Mark Jones, Aberhafesp

£15 Jessica Ramsden, Bwlch-y-ffridd

£15 Mr & Mrs Edward Parry, Aberhafesp

AUTUMN 2018 EVENTS



Christmas Spectacular
8th December
Meal & Dancing



Potato Harvest:
 In the past 10 years this field has had crops of potatoes for making chips, maize, wheat and now potatoes for **Vodka**



Coffee Morning
in Aid of Lingen Davies
Cancer Fund

£830 was raised

HILLCREST VILLAGE GREEN

In January 2016 a planning application was submitted for four additional properties to be built on Hillcrest. This would have meant the loss of the green area in the centre of Hillcrest as three of the properties would have been built on it. Also, the application was a bit economical with the truth, claiming that Hillcrest was an estate of 12 bungalows (it is actually an estate of 22 properties), and was served by a regular bus service (it isn't).

Many residents objected to the planning application on the grounds that there would be nowhere for the Hillcrest children to play other than the road, and that the road would not be suitable for children as the additional properties would destroy the clear visibility that the road has. In addition, the planning approval required that space should be provided for car parking at the rate of one car per bedroom for the new properties so that would have meant providing parking for 12 additional cars in total. Since the properties themselves did not provide space for three vehicles per property this would have meant squeezing cars onto roads which are only a single car width wide.

Despite the many objections from residents the application was approved in June 2016. This was a real blow to the residents. During the application/objection process someone had suggested registering the green as a Village Green. After outline planning permission was granted this was investigated and the requirements were basically that the land had to have been used legitimately for sports and pastimes over the past 20 years, which local residents knew was the case. Most residents gave statements of their experience, and a Village Green application was accepted by Powys County Council along with photographs from residents and ex-residents.

The process dragged on for two years until the hearing at Trefeglwys Village Hall in October 2018, where verbal evidence was given and subject to cross-examination by the Councillors and Council Solicitor.

A few weeks after the hearing official notification was received that the application had been successful and the central green in Hillcrest was now registered as a Village Green. The residents were delighted as the green is really valued and is the only realistic play area for the children as most Hillcrest gardens are too small. Robin's Christmas Miracle, the **FIRST XMAS TREE ON THE VILLAGE GREEN (2018)**





HAMERBUILD

Nigel Hamer
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Supporting the Aberhafesp Community newsletter

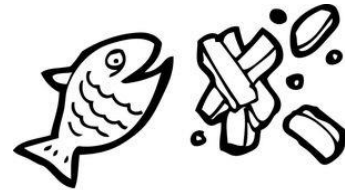
CAERSWS FISH BAR

Friendly, Family owned and Local

We are open:
Mondays 4:30 - 8:00
Tuesdays - Saturdays
12:0 - 2:00 4:30 - 8:00

Our hours are extended for
Spring/Summer

We look forward to welcoming old and
new customers.



© Can Stock Photo

NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

By the time you read this, Christmas will have come and gone and the nights will be drawing out again, thank goodness. We have had a very busy Autumn in the hall with it being booked a lot more now for outside functions, especially with the improved kitchen facilities.

The Monday morning sessions 10am-12 noon have been very enjoyable with lots of knitting going on among other things. Many small jumpers have appeared also teddies and an elephant. Much tea has been drunk and the world has been put to rights, in our kitchen, anyway.

Friday evenings have become **Table Tennis** nights with many people turning up of all ages and abilities, which is lovely to see. We might even go for a third table soon if this continues. There is some good friendly rivalry building up and some of our players are getting pretty good. All welcome 7pm. £2 per person children free. Don't forget **Short Mat Bowls** Tuesday evenings 7pm.



The **Coffee Morning** in aid of the Lingen Davies Cancer Centre on 17th November was very



enjoyable, and a total of £830 was raised so thanks to everyone involved for a wonderful effort. There were some really good stalls and the kitchen excelled itself, a

long queue building up at one point for our celebrated bacon butties. Roll on the next coffee morning!

We were given a generous donation of a tall glass fronted fridge for the bar, just in good time for the Christmas Spectacular on the 8th December. Eighty people came and enjoyed a superb turkey and beef roast dinner with all the trimmings, followed by delicious puddings provided by Trefor and Carole Davies of Newtown Sandwich bar. Entertainment was put on all evening by Tony Rowley with his disco equipment and flashing lights who kept the sound at an unobtrusive level for talking and hyped it up later for dancing, and what a lot of people were dancing. A thoroughly good evening.

It just remains for us to wish all our readers a really **Happy New Year**. Maddy Thornton.

HIRING THE CENTRE

In the past two years the facilities at the Centre have been much improved, the kitchen in particular has been modernised with new equipment which makes it both a safer and more pleasant place to prepare food and drinks. The toilets have been redecorated and provided with more up to date facilities. The approach to the front entrance is much improved and now offers a really welcoming appearance and the lobby inside has been repainted. There is a large car park next to the Community Centre.

These improvements have led to an increase in the number of events for which the centre has been booked including birthday parties, receptions after funerals and other family occasions. All the people who have used the Centre recently have expressed their appreciation of the changes made.

The charges for the hire of the hall are £12.50 an hour; for a morning or afternoon session the charge is £50. The use of the kitchen facilities costs an additional £20. A bar is available on request.

If you would like to book the Centre for an event please contact Mrs. Elaine Benbow on 01686 625586.

NEWS FROM THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

We have had a busy few months with good attendances at all our meetings. Mary Oldham the Librarian at Gregynog, gave us a very interesting talk in September about the Davies Sisters of Gregynog. They were amazing ladies who contributed so much to the arts in Wales and beyond. We discovered there is so much history on our doorstep. The following month we were taken on a car journey "From Coed y Dinas to Monaco". We heard from Chris Griffiths how he and a group of friends travelled down to the south of France and their experiences on the way. We held our AGM in November and afterwards guests from local W.Is joined us for a wonderful floral demonstration given by Chris Walton. The evening ended with refreshments provided by our members. To get us in the mood for Christmas, Sue Richards from Fabulous Cake Creations showed us how to make flowers from sugar paste to decorate our Christmas cakes. She brought many examples of her work for us to admire or purchase. We took part in the county W.I Short Mat Bowls competition in October coming second and third. Our Domino team has recently completed their games, narrowly missing out on a place in the finals. Our Darts team will be beginning their games in the New Year.



We ventured into entertainment this Autumn with seven of our members taking part in a Variety Concert organised by the county W.I in Abermule. We became "The Andrew Sisters" for the night, singing their songs from the Second World War.

Our programme for 2019 is near completion - we try to make it as varied as possible with something for everyone.

January	Nutrition	Debbie Gilbert
February	Caribbean Cookery	
March	History of Morris Marshall & Poole	
April	Tufti Stuff	Recycling with textiles
May	Funky Dance Session	

We meet on the first Thursday of the month at 7pm in the Community Centre. You will be very welcome to come along one evening to see what is on offer at our W.I. Look forward to seeing you. Find us on Facebook or contact Elaine Benbow Tel: 01686 625586

RHYDFELIN BAPTIST CHAPEL

On the 2nd December 2018 a very well supported Service was enjoyed when our young people performed the story entitled 'A Christmas Miracle', produced by Janet, Charlotte and Lloyd. Followed by a buffet lunch and visit from Father Christmas. On Sunday 17th December a Service of Dedication was conducted by the Rev. Meredith Powell when a beautiful Welsh Royal Crystal vase was presented to the Chapel by Gareth, the son of the late Mrs. Glen. Hamer. A very well attended Carol service was held on Christmas eve, organised by Gwynfryn and Edith Evans, with organist Gwyneth Jones and all families and friends of the Chapel taking part. We now look forward to our Sunday services in 2019 at 2.30pm when a very warm welcome is extended to all.



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ABERHAFESP YOUNG FARMERS

Throughout this year we have come together as a club and done quite a lot of things. As a club we can't thank the community enough for working with us, and coming to events that we held at the community centre. At the start of the year we had the Montgomeryshire county rally which was hosted by Fraser and Oliver Jones from Wernddu farm, Aberhafesp. As a club we helped them to make this event happen and what a great job they did. We held a car treasure hunt, bingo evening, and a few other things to raise money for the club. Also, we visited the Jump In Trampoline Park in Shrewsbury, and had a great night. This Xmas we raised money for cancer research with our carol singing. Throughout 2019 we are hoping to do a lot more events to make the community come together and have fun. Dinner dance in Bettws 12th January and we are taking part in the Young Farmers Drama Festival at Theatre Hafren, in February, and later in the year we will be holding a tractor run in celebration of our 10th year as a club being reformed.

MOTHER'S UNION

Branch Leader: Committee of MU Members

Enquiries: Liz Davies (Secretary)

Committee Co-ordinator: Barbara Moelwyn-Williams (tel: 01686 627329)

Newtown Mothers' Union - Branch Leader: Chris Roberts

Meetings are held at St. Gwynogs Church at 3pm from February to September on the 3rd Wednesday unless otherwise stated.

2019 Programme

January 13th	Festive Meal, Buck Hotel Caersws 12.30
February 21st	AGM followed by a Quiz
March 21st	Rob Liscombe. Teaching in Lesotho, South Africa
April 18th	Christine Cooper Lent Service
May 16th	Maggie Allen Open Doors - Persecution of Christians
June 20th	Marian Wilson Holidays
July	Summer Trip
August	Rev. Dr. Peter and Mrs. Pike. Talk and Tea 3pm
September 19th	No meeting
October	No meeting
November	No meeting Wave of Prayer
December	No meeting

Diocesan Project 2019: 'Away From it All Holiday': AFIA Fund
Cedewain Mission Area 2019: The Montgomery Family Crisis Centre
Theme 2019: 'Listen, observe, act - in step with God'

Are you elderly, disabled (young or old) or just have mobility problems?

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ST GWYNOG'S CHURCH

We would like to thank the community for supporting the service on **Remembrance Sunday**, when we remembered the Centenary of the ending of WW1 and the formation of the RAF. There was a good display of memorabilia from both the 1st and 2nd World Wars. We were also able to welcome a relative of a member of the air crew who died at Glascoed Farm in 1944. We were fortunate to have a serving member of the RAF and also a bugler in attendance. The collection of £305 has been sent to the RAF Benevolent Fund.

The Fair Trade coffee shop and cafe is proving a popular venue on the first Saturday of each month 10-12 noon, and thanks to all who visit we have been able to send £500 in 2018 to Rekindle - Small Steps (a local Newtown Charity which supports youngsters between the ages of 18 and 25). Mike Hughes retired as Head Barista in December and he will be much missed. The shop is closed in January, opening again on 2nd February.

Snowdrops and Tea. In the past few years we have had a wonderful display of snowdrops and we think it would be rather nice if one weekend in January/February to open the church and offer tea to all our visitors who come to view them. Date to be advised.

Thank you to the community and church members for cutting the grass in the churchyard throughout 2018. It is much appreciated by all who visit the church.

6th January	9.30am	Holy Eucharist Service
9th January	10.30am	Midweek service (Holy Eucharist)
13th January	No service	
16th January	10.30am	Midweek Service (Morning Prayer)
20th January	9.30am	Morning Prayer
23rd January	10.30am	Midweek Service (Holy Eucharist)
27th January	No service	
30th January	10.30am	Midweek Service (Morning Prayer)

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

A Community Council is governed by the Local Government Act of 1972. Here in Aberhafesp it consists of seven Councillors who sign a Declaration of Office and work on a voluntary basis for the good of the whole community and a Clerk who is employed to ensure the correct procedures are enforced and the smooth running of the Council in General. Notice of each meeting is to be displayed for at least three days - to include date, time, venue and the Agenda, and can be seen on the notice boards in Bwlch-y-Ffridd, Hillcrest Aberhafesp, the community centre and the telephone kiosk in Bethel, and now on the community centre website.

<http://www.community-council.org.uk/aberhafespcommunitycouncil>

Also, minutes of all meetings are now available to read on the website and printed copies can be requested from the current Clerk, Rachel Hamer rachel.hamer72@hotmail.com or by letter to: Oakdene, Bwlch-y-Ffridd, SY16 3HX. They are held on a Wednesday evening at the Community Centre 7.30pm. Members of the public can attend any meeting, unless otherwise specified. Come and just watch or if you have an interest in anything on the agenda or have anything you wish to bring to the attention of the council. If you do wish to make a comment or raise an issue you need to ask the chairman if you can speak.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL HISTORY

This potted version of the workings of your local Community Council has been written by Jean Morgan, the Clerk to the Council for many years and it is hoped it will be of interest to you all. Council procedures are governed by the Statutory regulations of Local Authorities and records are presented annually to the District Auditors.

From May 1953 to March 1977 an average of just over three meetings were held every year, since 1977 the life of the Community Council has become more demanding and to date the average number of meetings per year has risen to nine (the minimum requirement is four in any one year), also present day Councillors attend site meetings for planning, highways, County Council and other organisations.

Meetings have been held at Aberhafesp School since 1953 then called Glanrhyd Chapel Schoolroom.

The first minutes reflect the problems the Council still have 46 years on, requests for financial support for various organisations which now total an average in any one year of between 15 - 20. An interesting item of May 1953 was the arrangements for the celebrations of the crowning of Princess Elizabeth our present Queen.

In the minutes of November 1955 it seems strange to read "Parish Electricity Supply has now been included in the Fifth stage of the Boards development programme" a commodity that today we all take for granted. In the late 50's minutes show concern over post boxes at Blackwell and Bethan and the sub-post office at Bwlch y Ffridd which unfortunately no longer exists, and in 1958 the telephone kiosk arrived near Rhydlydan. In 1960 the rural bus service was discussed with the conclusion that the service of the day on Tuesday and Saturday was serving a useful purpose.

In 1963/64 a request was forwarded to the County Council for a Magistrate to be appointed in Aberhafesp as neither a Magistrate nor a Rector now resided in the Parish. In reply the Council stated that the present Chairman of Newtown RDC resided at the Ysgafell and Mr. Edfryn Jones, Hemblaes, Llanwnog - both being Magistrates and both living in neighbouring Parishes - there was no need to appoint further and the request was declined.

In 1969 the Investiture of His Royal Highness Prince Charles as Prince of Wales with visit included to Newtown on July 2nd and other celebrations held locally were minuted.

We move on to the 70's when a letter was received from RDC that formal notice of a sewerage scheme in Aberhafesp with a pumping station at the Pentre was now confirmed. In June 1973 there was confirmation of mains water supply to the houses in the Pentre area. Again in June 1973 the Parish Bier once kept at the Old Rectory was sold to Prof. H. Murrell U.C.W. Technology Dept for the sum of £30 and the money deposited in a special deposit account at the TSB. On the 1st April 1974 Community Councils came into force - prior to this date they were known as Parish Councils. On 25th July 1977 the death occurred of Mr. J.D. Rogers who had been clerk for a total of 29 years - Jean Morgan was appointed in October 1977.

TO BE CONTINUED IN THE 2019 SPRING EDITION

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Neighbourhood Watch in Aberhafesp and Bwlch-y-Ffridd has somewhat fallen during the last few years and currently we do not have any areas set up. However rather than organise one scheme for the whole area you can set one up with your close neighbours if you are interested on www.ourwatch.org.uk.

There is more information about this on our website. www.community-council.org.uk/aberhafespcommunitycouncil

Caring for your neighbours:

Severe weather conditions are the times when the elderly and those needing care are especially vulnerable. This situation is compounded with the current cutbacks in services, resulting in fewer people available to check on those who are at risk to ensure that they are safe and well.

Being a good neighbour also means to pop round and have a cuppa, as so many older people are lonely and their four walls are their prison. In fact they would have more company if they were, in fact, in prison. When you visit, you may be the only person they have spoken to for days.

It doesn't take much time to be a good neighbour - just to check someone is safe, warm and well.

Knock on the door and ask if they are ok, are they warm and well? Have they got essential supplies like bread and milk? Or pick up the phone, call them and ask if they are ok, do they need any shopping done – a few items collected when you go to the shops yourself. Spend a few minutes having a chat.

Poorly fitting footwear can cause falls. The majority of which are due to wearing 'sloppy' slippers. Accidents can happen so easily but many falls can be avoided by wearing correctly fitted supportive footwear.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Have you had your **FLU JAB**?
NHS Guidelines: The injected flu vaccine is offered free of charge on the NHS to people who are at risk. The best time to have this is in the autumn, from the beginning of October to the end of November, but don't worry if you've missed it, you can have the vaccine later in the winter.

Ask your GP or pharmacist or for more details go to:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/flu-influenza-vaccine/>

Have you heard of ELECTRO SENSITIVITY?

It is probably very unlikely, but we do have a local resident who suffers from this very debilitating condition. The reason for including this in the newsletter is to raise awareness of something that potentially can affect us all. If you would like to know more about this condition you can read an article on our website under the page 'Items of Interest' written by the local resident with reference to studies by bio physicists.

Printed copies are available from the Editor.

<http://s3.spanglefish.com/s/38320/documents/other/electrosensitivity.pdf>

DEFIBRILLATORS

For your information there are 3 defibrillators in our area situated at:

1. Aberhafesp Community Centre
2. The entrance to Hillcrest, on the right hand side
3. In the telephone kiosk at Bwlch-y-Ffridd

Some more training/refresher sessions will be arranged soon.

ABERHAFESP COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Newsletter Editor:	Marilyn Bedworth mbedworth@gmail.com	01686 689977
Community Centre: Chair	Maddy Thornton christhornton85@btinternet.com	01686 623310
Community Centre: Treasurer:	Edward Parry edwardparry@live.co.uk	01686 688346
Community Centre: Secretary	Joan Michel Joanvera.michel@gmail.com	01686 688550
Community Centre: Hall Bookings	Elaine Benbow Elainbenbow@hotmail.com	01686 625586
Community Council Chair	Nigel Hamer nigelhamer68@hotmail.com	01686 650702
Aberhafesp website	www.community-council.org.uk/aberhafespcommunitycouncil	
Facebook Page	www.facebook.com/groups	

NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of this newsletter will be published in April 2019. I need your email addresses and more advertisements please. Submit any material to the Editor (mbedworth@gmail.com) no later than the **20th March**.