

Gwernymynydd & Cadole

Newyddion y pentrefi / Village News

Rhagfyr / December 2012



Pensioners To Enjoy A Christmas Treat

ALMOST 100 village pensioners will sit down to a slap-up Christmas dinner at the Plas Hafod Hotel on Tuesday, December 11th - and it won't cost them a penny.

Thanks to sales of the 'Around Gwernymynydd' calendar, produced this year in the village for the first time, the cost of the turkey dinner with all the trimmings has been paid for.

Community Councillor Shirley Hughes, who also helps run the Village Lunch Club, says the event will be a special treat for all the pensioners who attend.

She said: "Sales of the calendar have gone well but we still have some left and I would encourage anyone who hasn't yet got one to get one soon while stocks last.

"Simon, at the Plas Hafod, has been first class and I am sure will help us really give our older residents a great dinner with good company and plenty of Christmas cheer.

"There will be a fantastic raffle too and we have already managed to secure some very nice prizes. However, again, if anyone can help by donating prizes we'd love to hear for you.

"Every pensioner who attends will be going home with something, but we are keeping that a surprise."

And Shirley, on behalf of the Community Council, is making a special plea to villagers.

She said; "We would ask that everyone keeps an eye on any elderly neighbours this Christmas. It's easy, when we have family around, to forget the old lady or man next door who is alone.

"If that's the case, why not give them a call and invite them to join you for a few hours. Surely, that's what Christmas is all about!"

Calendars are available, priced £5 for A4 and £7 for A3, from The Swan, Loggerheads shop, The Spar at Loggerheads Garage or Shirley Hughes, Elwyn Owens or Kevin Hughes.

Please support this village initiative.

Main photo: Snow Trees, Glyndwr Road submitted by Elf38 on Gwernymynydd and Cadole Flickr group site.






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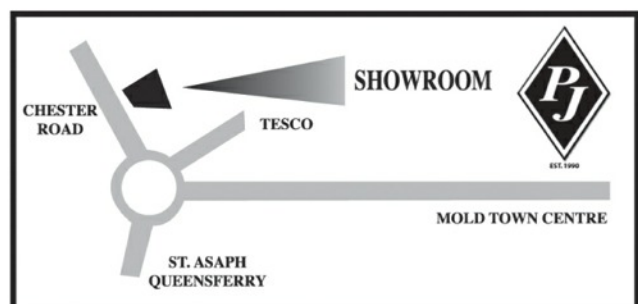
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A Word Or Two From Nancy

THE VILLAGE Centre is going to look terrific for the Christmas Fair and the Carol Concert.

At our last Centre Management Committee we discussed how we could offer experience to residents who may have paper qualifications but need to prove to future employers they perform well in the real world.

Apart from our ongoing activities we would like to promote new ideas in areas involving subjects such as caring, catering, design, media, IT and environmental work.

As well as being very useful for the community it could do wonders for your CV. Either contact me by email (sendittonancy@gmail.com) or send feedback via gwernymynydd.org.uk if interested.

As winter approaches Neighbourhood Watch are reminding us to be careful about.....

- Cold callers on the phone offering all sorts of deals and asking for your details – tell them nothing
- Look after your car and house keys. Do not leave them where they can be seen through the front door inviting someone to reach through the letterbox for them.
- Always lock your outside buildings



Christmas comes but once a year – so they tell us. And those years are getting shorter!!

May I wish you a very Happy Christmas for 2012

A BIG thank you to our wonderful team of distributors who never fail to get the newsletter round the village in good time every month: Thomas Roberts, Olive Sweetman, Keith Taylor, Norma Humphreys, Garmon Roberts, Ian Joseph, Jaqui Morriss, Liz Wolfenden, Pauline McCracken, Joyce Withington, Gary Williams, Rose Barron, Ann Harney, Vicki Seddon, Lilian Roberts, Sue Elseley, The Swan and last but not least Elwyn and Jane Owens for co-ordinating the distribution. As usual there will be no January newsletter.

Kevin

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Children To Perform Special Christmas Concert

VILLAGE children have been rehearsing hard for a special Christmas concert and they want everyone to come along and listen.

The special concert will take place on Sunday, December 23rd in the Village Centre and will see children sing traditional carols and dish out lots of mince pies and other festive goodies.

And Gwernaffield Silver Band will be supporting the children who have been practicing hard under the direction of Freda Jones.

Tickets for the concert cost just £2.50 with all proceeds going toward the fund to purchase computers for the village school.

For tickets call Anita on 0796 1068934 or Karen on (01352) 756954.



February Quiz Night

LOOKING ahead to next year the PTA of Gwernymynydd CP School are holding their first village pub quiz. This will be in the Rainbow Pub on Saturday 2nd February starting at 8pm.

It is to help support the school in two big projects. The first is to purchase Ipads for the children to use and to establish a wireless connection for the school. The second is to buy additional outdoor equipment.

Emma Williams, a member of the PTA committee says "It would be great if you could show your support and help your local primary school.

"The quiz will be held in the style of a bingo game so you don't have to be a brainbox to enter. There is no limit on members per team.

"The cost is £5 per person to include hot food which has been kindly laid on by the Rainbow Pub. There will be a prize for the winning team, a raffle and a bonus cash pot round."

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FAIRTRADES

Village Remembers The Fallen

A SERVICE of Remembrance at the Village Memorial was attended by more than 30 villagers.

Conducted by the Rev Mary Brotherston the moving service included the laying of a wreath of poppies at the base of the cenotaph.



The Stephenson family, who live in the old school house rang the old bell to start the 11am minutes silence.

And the football match between Swan Gwernymynydd and the Hare and Hounds, Connah's Quay, due to kick-off at 10.30am, was delayed until 11.10am with the players also showing their respects.

Community Council chair, Marjorie Thompson, said the service was as poignant as ever.

She said: "We were delighted so many people turned out for the service and it was nice to see so many young people in attendance too.



"It is important we remember those that made the ultimate sacrifice in fighting for our freedom in conflicts around the world.

"And of course there are young men from our village who are doing their duty in dangerous places such as Afghanistan today."

LEST WE FORGET: Nattaya Beadles, six, hands a poppy to her granddad, Harry Beadles, 86, of Gwernymynydd, who served in the Pacific Campaign with the Royal Navy during World War 2.

Standing to attention are Sgt Tom Kelly and Cpl Huw Davies-Cooke, 1378 Squadron Mold ATC. Carl Jackson of Gwernymynydd, who served with the King's Own Borders, and Rev Mary Brotherston look on.

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Public Meeting Hears Building Development Plans

A HASTILY called public meeting in the Village Centre was held on November 25th following Wainhomes Ltd's submission of an amended planning application to build 18 houses at Siglen Uchaf, off Ruthin Road.

The meeting, attended by more than 30 villagers, heard that the application varies only slightly from a previously submitted application. In fact the new plans have changed just one type of proposed house and made alterations to the internal roads of the development to protect trees already present at the site.

Those that attended the meeting remain bitterly opposed to the development due to what is perceived will be a dangerous access and egress from the site, potential flooding and sewage problems. It would also significantly damage the landscape and involve a massive retaining wall which would be visible to most of the village. (See the pictures opposite.)

Marjorie Thompson, Chair of Gwernymynydd Community Council, explained that the council would be making it's objections known to the Head of Planning at Flintshire County Council before the closing date for letters on November 29th. The application is now on the agenda for the Planning and Development Control Committee meeting on 12th December at the Council Chamber in County Hall. Anyone wishing to speak at the meeting must contact the Planning Department by **12pm on Monday 10th December**. Phone 01352 703290 or publicspeaking@flintshire.gov.uk

More comments and information on www.gwernymynydd.org.uk home and guestbook pages.

Top Report For Village School

FOLLOWING an inspection visit, Estyn officials have given the school a gold star.

The two representatives have made a recommendation that the progress on the requirements in last year's report is such that there is no need for a further Estyn visit for another five years.

Chair of Governors, Elwyn Owens, said: "That the school achieved this outcome reflects enormous credit on our new head teacher Louise Williams, all the staff and children. They are all to be congratulated."

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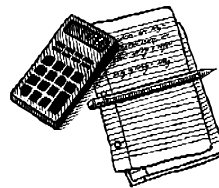
We will again be having a visit from Father Christmas together with a specially written interactive play from the Shed Theatre Company to create a magical Christmas experience for children.

Sun 16 Dec; Sat 22 Dec; Sun 23 Dec Please book

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Post Development

Disgusting Habit Is Spoiling Village

THE problem of dog fouling has once again been highlighted by a Uwch Y Dre resident.

Using the feedback form available on the village website the angry resident, who does not wish to be identified, said: "In the last 10 days we have an incident of dog fouling on the walk way between Uwch Y Dre that crosses over Godre'r Mynydd and into Heol Y Wern.

"There is an area of grass which a dog owner has taken to using and not picking up! My husband and myself are dog owners and on our daily walks we are picking up after this other dog owner.

"We are unsure as to whether they are new to the village, or new dog owners. I have contacted Flintshire County Council to report this and to request brochures and resident leaflets.

"We want to keep our village clean and safe. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated."

Community councillor Carl Jackson said: "I totally agree with this resident. Rest assured anyone who lets their pets foul footpaths or green spaces within the village will be reported should they be identified.

"It's disgusting and potentially very dangerous. Lets keep our village clean and a place we can all be proud of."

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Homemade mince pies beat those bought in the shops hands down every time and are even better again if you make your own mincemeat. It is incredibly easy and early December is not too late. It is worth making in a 2kg quantity as in this recipe as it makes a wonderful filling for baked apples that can be enjoyed long after Christmas.

To make about 2kg (4 large jam jars)

1 large cooking apple - peeled and grated
600g dried fruit: currents, raisins and sultanas
300g vegetable suet
250g dark brown sugar (muscovado)
100g chopped peel
zest and juice of 1 lemon & 1 orange

50g chopped almonds
1 tsp mixed spice
¼ grated nutmeg
½ tsp cinnamon
100ml brandy

Soak dried fruit in orange and lemon juice for a minimum of 1 hour. Add all other ingredients, except the brandy and stir well. Place in a very low oven 120C gas ¼ for 2 – 3 hours in a bowl, dish or pan covered with a lid or foil. Remove from the oven and allow the mixture to cool before adding the brandy and stirring well before jarring.

Jars should be prepared as for jam making ie cleaned and sterilised in the oven: 120C, gas ½ or through the hottest cycle in a dishwasher. However the jars should be cooled before filling or else the suet will melt and separate.

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Walks around Gwernymynydd and Cadole

New page on www.gwernymynydd.org.uk

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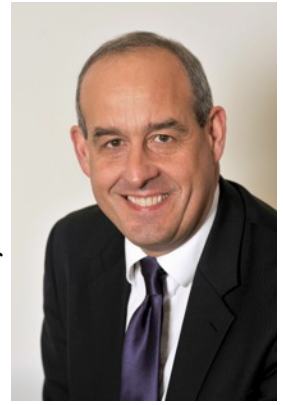
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Our Man in Westminster Reports

I am aware of a planning application for Siglen Ucha, to build new houses and a retaining wall at the southern end of the proposed development.

I know many people have some strong views on the proposals and I hope residents were able to engage with the application process before the submission deadline at the end of November.



.....

People in Gwernymynydd will know that the consultation over the proposed closure of Mold Hospital Minor Injuries Unit has now closed. I hope many of you took the time to make your feelings known on the issue.

I have been told by the Health Board that a decision over the future of the Unit will be made after Christmas in January.

I opposed the closure because more than 5,000 people a year use the services currently provided in Mold. It is also especially important for people living in villages such as Gwernymynydd and Cadole as transport is a factor. The alternatives are Deeside and Wrexham, neither of which have particularly good transport links.

Local GPs have also expressed their concern and I now hope the Health Board takes our legitimate concerns into consideration when making its decision.

.....

Finally, I want to wish everyone in Gwernymynydd and Cadole a peaceful and enjoyable Christmas break. I hope you are able to spend time with family and friends at this special time.

If you need to contact me, call my office on 01352 763159 or e-mail me at hansond@parliament.uk

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Pantomime Group's Lantern of Success

THE AGM of Gwernymynydd Pantomime Group saw a new committee elected as rehearsals for the February show continue apace.

Held in the Village Centre on Tuesday, November 6th, the AGM heard reports from Chair, Karen Jones, secretary, Elwyn Owens and treasurer, Bev Alexander.

The new committee of 12 people were duly elected to serve until the 2013 AGM.



Karen Jones, in her report, paid tribute to all those that made the 2012 performance of Snow White such a huge success, in particular the 50 plus volunteers that helped mainly behind the scenes..

Elwyn Owens said: "The Pantomime is amazing. It's a vehicle that brings people together and enables them to discover hidden talent and personal confidence.

"It's wonderful to see a seven-year-old working alongside a septuagenarian and the ways in which the confidence of young people and grown-ups both develop and blossom."

The AGM heard that rehearsals for Alladin, which will be staged in February, are being stepped up under the directorship of Maureen Rutherford, with tickets due to go on sale very soon after Christmas.

Karen Jones added: "Once again we hope all four performances will be sold out. I can promise a wonderful night of entertainment from the performers. We have some seriously good talent in the village."

Copies of the full pantomime reports are available on the village website



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Sunday: 12 noon to 4pm

Hare And Hounds Sent Packing

SWAN Gwernymynydd coasted into the second round of the Deeside Sunday League Division 1 Cup after thrashing Connah's Quay's Hare and Hounds.

Terry Pughe smashed in four to add to single strikes from Ant Williams and Steve Messam-Jones as Swan saw off the hapless Hare and Hounds 6-2 in a one-sided affair.

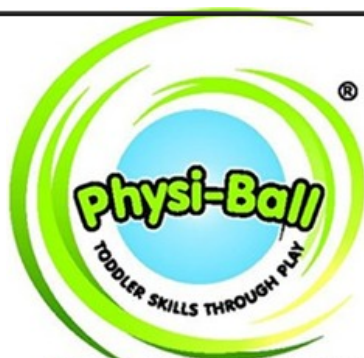
Swan manager, Glyn Jelley, was delighted with the win which means the Swan's are still on target with their aim of reaching a Cup Final this year.

Glyn said: "Having been promoted last season we wanted to consolidate this year which I think we are doing. We also set a target of reaching at least one cup final and we are still on track to do so which is pleasing.

"The kick-off was delayed by 35 minutes for the game against the Hare and Hounds out of a mark of respect for the Remembrance Day service being held at the village war memorial in front of the Community Centre.

"The players also observed a minute's silence at 11am, just before the game kicked-off."

Glyn added: "The appalling weather we have suffered means we have had a number of games postponed but we hope for a strong league run after Christmas which we hope will give us a respectable league position come the end of the season."



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