

Quarry Plans Fall Under The Spotlight

COMMUNITY councillors have formally objected to plans which would see Cambrian Quarry used as a recycling plant and filled-in with non-hazardous waste.

The Alan's Skip Hire application was discussed at length at a public meeting in the village centre which was attended by more than 40 concerned residents.

Flintshire County Council's Head of Minerals and Waste Planning, Gary Nancarrow and Hannah Parrish, the officer delegated to the application, were on hand at the meeting to answer questions from residents about the application.

And former Chair of the Community Council, Chris Bradshaw, produced scaled drawings showing the proposed new access road which would be built above, and parallel to, the existing Glyndwr Road.

Councillor Nancy Matthews says the meeting gave residents the opportunity to express their concerns and helped the Community Council decide what their response to the application should be.

Marjorie Thompson, Chair of the Community Council, said: "Following the public meeting we have written to Flintshire County Council outlining the many points raised.

"There are many reasons why we feel we must object to this application including the proposed new entrance to Glyndwr Road at it's junction with the A494, the increased movement of HGV's, up to 150 a day, through the village, traffic noise and increased traffic risk, dust and the close proximity of the quarry with an area of outstanding natural beauty.

"There are many more reasons why we have objected to this application all of which we have included in our submission.

"I would encourage any residents wishing to add any comments to contact Flintshire County Council quoting planning reference number 050695 as the consultation period has been extended."

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Book Club News

THE monthly meeting of the Book Club met at the Swan Inn in at the start of May and enjoyed a lively discussion.

Jayne Borthwick said: "Thanks to all who made it to the May meeting, another good night with lots of discussion and different view points.

The next meeting is on Wednesday, June 5 at 7.30pm and the group read is Phillippa Gregory's The Kingmakers Daughter. Don't worry if you haven't read it by then but please still come along.

"Recommended reads from the May meeting include, The Soldiers Wife by Joanna Trollope, One Of Us by Mellissa Bond, Sorrow Wood by Raymond L Atkins, The Case of the Missing Boyfriend by Nick Alexander and The Diplomats Wife by Pam Jenoff."



Factory Fire Visible From Village

ON Friday, May 24th a huge fire engulfed the Mainetti coat hanger factory at Greenfield.

Amazingly, smoke and fumes from blaze were clearly visible in the village despite there being a distance of some 11 miles, as the crow flies, between Greenfield and Gwernymynydd.

Dave Thornton took this photograph from the Tros y Wern track at lunchtime at the height of the blaze.

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A Word Or Two from Nancy

THIS month we have had the Annual Meeting of the County Council at which we elected the new chair, Cllr Carolyn Thomas from Treuddyn, and vice chair, Cllr Glenys Diskin of Mancot.

The Leader of the Council from the majority group, Labour's Cllr Aaron Shotton is supported by two independent councillors as they do not have overall control. Cllr Shotton then appointed his cabinet.

MORE talks have taken place about traffic issues at Cadole regarding the speed limit on Gwernaffield Road and the junction with Village Road but without any concrete results as yet. My motto on this one is that we keep trying.



MANY of us follow ideas from TV gardening programmes and have incorporated gravel into our gardens as well as on our drives.

Unfortunately, however, gravel escapes onto pavements causing a hazard for people with poor sight and those a bit unsteady on their pins. I would ask that residents keep an eye on escaping gravel and please sweep it off pavemet.

COMMUNITY Messaging uses North Wales's award-winning OWL (Online Watch Link) to keep you up to date with what's going on in your police service.

It is an automated system that e-mails you with useful information, news about your local police and crime prevention advice. It can also send short SMS text messages direct to your mobile.

To receive Community Messaging you must be living or working with a registered postal address in North Wales.

It's an amazing service and completely free. Those with access to a computer should take a look at www.owl.co.uk





All aboard!

WALKERS out on a stroll along Plas Hafod Lane had a bit of a surprise with the arrival of the number 2 bus from Chester.

Not that there are plans for it to become a regular service, instead the traditional vintage open-topped bus had been booked to bring wedding guests to the Plas Hafod Hotel for a reception.

It was certainly an unusual way to arrive at the top village wedding venue even if passengers had to disembark from the top deck due to overhanging trees at one point.

Thanks go to Dave and Pat Thornton for submitting the excellent photograph.

If you spot anything unusual or interesting around the village why not send a snap to the editor via e-mail at kevinhughes 348@live.com and check out village photographs on our Flickr page via www.gwernymynydd.org.uk.

WEDDING COACH: Guests on the vintage Chester bus enjoy the ride along Plas Hafod Lane on their way to a reception at the Plas Hafod Hotel.



GET COOKING WITH CAFFI FLORENCE CHEFS

May and June are the months that local grown asparagus is available. Everything is a bit late this year so June will see the best of this delicious vegetable. This is a very simple yet sophisticated recipe that would be perfect for eating outdoors with a good glass of wine – dream on!!

Tagliatelle with Asparagus, Cherry Tomatoes, Herb Oil and Parmesan

To serve 2
Bunch of asparagus
12 cherry tomatoes
250g tagliatelle
2 tbls olive oil
small bunch herbs (eg chives, basil, parsley)
50g Parmesan cheese

Prepare the asparagus by cutting off and discarding the woody ends. Neatly cut the remaining stalks at the diagonal. Keep the tips and stalks separate.

Cook the pasta according to pack instructions.

Roast or lightly grill the tomatoes until just starting to soften.

Blitz the herbs with the oil in a blender (you can make extra and keep for other dishes/salads).

Cook the asparagus stalks in boiling water for about 4-5 mins until just tender. Add the tips for a further minute.

Add the drained pasta to bowls, sprinkle over the tomatoes and asparagus, drizzle with the herb oil and add parmesan shavings.

Serve with a rocket or other green salad.

Wonderful, tasty and refreshing!

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Shirley Is Cooking Up A Treat With Business Plan

A VILLAGE woman has launched a new business from the comfort of her own kitchen.

NHSS Business Development Manager, Shirley Hughes, of Godre'r Coed, has started up her new enterprise, Custom Cake Co, after lots of requests for personalised celebration cakes.

Shirley, who trained as a chef and baker after leaving Mold High School, says she decided to launch her business in April after hours of market research convinced her she could make a real go of it.

She said: "I did a cake for a family member's birthday and ended up with lots of requests. And, having completed those cakes, I got even more requests so I decided to look into starting up my own home-based business.

Tag College Co

BAKING QUEEN: Shirley Hughes works on her latest creation in her kitchen

"It's quite complicated but I made sure I did everything her latest creation in her kitchen absolutely right. For instance, I'm thrilled Flintshire County

Council gave me the highest five star rating for food hygiene following a very detailed inspection."

She added: "I like to make and decorate cakes that tell a story. For example I've just done one for a 60th wedding anniversary. The couple met after the guy fell off a motor bike outside a pub in Brymbo.

"A girl, who was waiting at a bus stop, ran to his aid and they have been together every since. I did a cake with the bike, pub and bus stop and of course, the couple themselves, depicted on it which is what the family requested.

"I am not giving up my full-time job but will instead be working evenings and weekends on cakes. I do have a facebook page and a website that is under development.

"I'm excited about my new venture as it's something I really enjoy."



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Pupils Celebrate Village's Small School

PUPILS and staff of nine of Flintshire's smallest schools joined forces for a trek to the summit of Moel Famau.

The event was organised to celebrate the importance of small schools to the Flintshire communities they serve.

Jennie Lewis, head teacher of Ysgol Nannerch is a member of the Federation ENJOYING THE VIEW: Ysgol Nercwys pupils, Tilly, event.

She said: "A small school is classed as a school with fewer than 100 pupils. They are all an integral part of the communities they serve.

"Small schools have so many benefits and children thrive in the environment. Every child, whether gifted or special needs has an equal identity.

She added: "We decided to celebrate the uniqueness of Flintshire's small schools by walking together up Moel Famau. And we have decided to celebrate the role of GRUB UP: Enjoying their lunch on top of Moel Famau annual event."



of Small Schools and helped organise the Imogen, Lily, Robert and Danny along with, from left, Austrian exchange student teacher, Theresa Amann, student teacher Sophie Kendrick and head teacher Janet Meaden.



our small schools by making this an are Ysgol Gwernymynydd pupils Kendal, Seren, Lily and Ryan with head teacher Louise Williams.

Gwernymynydd Primary School head teacher, Louise Williams said: "We had a lovely hike and it was nice to celebrate the role of small schools together.

"I'd have loved to take the whole school along but that wasn't possible. We chose the four pupils who did go by drawing four names out of a hat, that was the only fair way to do it."

Marathon Man Misses Event

VETERAN village marathon runner, Eric Davies, had to pull out of the tough Excalibur Mararthon the day before the event due to a family crisis.

Eric, of Godre'r Coed, wants to thank all those who sponsored him with cash donations and through his justgiving page.

Eric is raising funds for Claire House Children's Hospice and was disappointed when the marathon was initially postponed due to April's heavy snow. However, having being rescheduled for Saturday, May 18th Eric had to pull out the evening before after his elderly mother was taken seriously ill.

Our best wishes go to Eric and his family at what is, a difficult time.

Local Veg Coop Sprouts Shoots

Following a successful meeting last month it has been decided to progress with a Veg Co-op at the Village Centre.

The scheme "cuts out the middlemen" and lets you buy vegetables, fruit and salad items at low prices. Wherever possible the products are sourced locally. Availability of some items will therefore vary according to season. There will be a choice of bags: £2, £4 and £6. Pictures showing example contents of the bags are on www.gwernymynydd.org.uk

Here is what is going to happen and how you can get involved:

- You can learn more, sign up and pay for your initial order either at a stall at the Summer Fair on Saturday, June 8th or at the Village Centre "launch" at 10am on Thursday, June 13th.
- The first delivery will be on Thursday, June 20th where bags can be collected from the Village Centre at 10am. At the same time, you place your order and pay for your bag for the following week.
- The order/delivery process will then continue each Thursday at 10am at the Village Centre (tea and cakes will also be available if you fancy stopping by for a chat).
- You can of course join the scheme at any time you just have to pay one week in advance.

If you are unable to come to the Village Centre then arrangements can be made with Anita for your orders to be placed and collected from the Swan Inn after 6pm each Thursday evening.

A team of volunteers have been recruited for the initial bagging and distribution sessions - however, all offers of help will be welcome to share the load as the Co-op progresses.

For further information contact Anita on 01352 752537 or email villagecentre@gwernymynydd.org.uk.



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Saturday June 29th

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Gwernymynydd Village Playing
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Sunday 14th July 6pm Loggerheads
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Our Man In Westminster

AT one of my recent surgeries in Gwernymynydd the future of the Rainbow Inn was again raised by a number of anxious residents.

A great many residents are concerned and wish to try and maintain the pub.

Since I last wrote in this column I've written to the Land Registry and contacted Punch Taverns to obtain assurances about what their intentions are in relation to the building which has now been boarded up.

I understand Punch Taverns have now sold the building however, for any new use, if not a pub, some planning permission will still be required.



I've also had representations to try to keep part of the character of the building including fireplace which may have originated from Downing Hall.

And if the pub finally closes, a plaque which would commemorate the inn's past role as a staging post be added.

I will continue to keep an eye on the development, as I know local councillors will also do.

Also since my last column, in Westminster, we have had the Queen's Speech setting out the Government's plans for the next 12 months.

This included Bills on Immigration, Anti-Social Behaviour, Pensions, Social Care and Offender Rehabilitation amongst others.

If you want any details, or have any views on these Bills or wish to discuss any other matter please contact my office.

You can write to me at: David Hanson MP, House of Commons, London SW1A OAA or 64 Chester Street, Flint, Flintshire CH6 5DH. Phone: 01352 763159 or 0207 219 5064 or e-mail: hansond@parliament.uk



BIKE WARNING

With the increased popularity of cycling and the arrival of summer, motorists exiting onto the main road, particularly from Swan Lane and Tros-y-Wern estate are reminded to be extra vigilant in looking out for cyclists - some of whom travel down the hill at speeds well over 30mph!

Please support the local businesses who advertise in our newsletter. If you would like to advertise contact kevinhughes348@live.com



Dig Out Those Old Football Boots!

THE village's ageing answer to Wayne Rooney, Steven Gerrard or Christiano Ronaldo are being encouraged to turn out for one last game.

A fundraising 5-a-side tournament to put some much-needed cash into the coffers of next year's planned Gwernfest has been arranged and would-be Premier League stars have the opportunity to show off their silky ball skills. Teams will be selected on the day to share out all the local talent equally.

The tournament will take place on Saturday, June 29th starting 3pm on the village playing field and promises to be a game for a laugh. Burgers and other refreshments will be available.

Glyn Jelley, who manages the Swan Sunday League side, says anyone fancying a game can pay the £5 entry fee and enjoy a competitive kick-about. "We are always on the look-out for new players and perhaps we will uncover a few, until now, hidden stars in the village. It's all for a good cause and will be a real fun event."

And Swan Gwernymynydd have finished off what has been a disappointing league campaign with an empathic 8-1 win over Tradesman's Arms.

Glyn said: "It was a bit of a stroll to be honest but hat-tricks from Terry Pughe and Liam Hett and a brace from Dan Drazdaskas saw us take all three points.

"It's not been the best of seasons especially losing out in the cup final thanks to three wind-assisted goals. But we must thank John Homersley for all his support and Anita and Kev at the Swan who are putting on a breakfast for us before we have our end-of-season celebration at Chester Races."

Swan Gwernymynydd have played three matches, all games previously postponed due to the snow, which were played after we went to print. See next months newsletter for a review of those games.

If you are 18 or over and fancy playing in the charity game contact John Homersley on 07967 260406 or Anita Thomas on (01352) 752537.



