

Gwernymynydd & Cadole

Newyddion y pentrefi / Village News

Hydref / October 2013



Planning Appeal Public Hearing This Month

THE appeal against the refusal of planning permission for a development of 18 new houses at Siglen Uchaf will be heard later this month.

The public hearing, before a Welsh Assembly Planning Inspector, will take place at the Village Centre on Tuesday, October 29th at 10am. It comes after an appeal by Wainhomes against the refusal of planning permission by Flintshire County Council.

Gwernymynydd and Nercwys County Councillor, Nancy Matthews, says it is important residents realise it will be a public hearing. She said: "There should be no confusion, this is a hearing to which the public are entitled to attend. It is not a public inquiry, it is really important that people realise that as the two are very, very different processes.

"Anyone wishing to speak at the hearing must register on arrival and can speak at the discretion of the Inspector. Basically, both sides sit around a table with the Planning Inspector and discuss the application for these new homes which was refused by Flintshire County Council.

"Any resident that has submitted comments in writing should understand the inspector will have those comments and if there is nothing further to add then there they may think about not delaying the process further."

Gwernymynydd Community Councillors objected to the plans at the outset of the planning process on a number of grounds. Councillors believed the plans would be detrimental to the rural character of the village. And they were concerned about a potential increase in traffic and the dangers of any new junction emerging onto Ruthin Road plus fears the drainage system would be unable to cope with the projected increase in water.

For more on the Appeal and to see the Community Council's objections to the planning application visit the village website www.gwernymynydd.org.uk

Easy Riders Tackle Gwernymynydd Hill

SOME of cycling's biggest names were given a warm welcome as they rode through the village during the Tour of Britain.



Hundreds of race fans, including children from the village school, lined the A494 hoping to catch a glimpse of Tour de France winner Sir Bradley Wiggins and fellow two wheel heroes Mark Cavendish, Gerald Ciolek and Naikro Quintana.

The event entered Flintshire at Cefn-y-Bedd and exited after Cadole as riders made their way from Stoke-on-Trent to the finishing line at Llanberis.

Thanks to the many villagers who submitted photos of the event which have all been added to the village website www.gwernymynydd.org.uk



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Music Mondays continue with singer songwriter Kenny Blake. Kenny first played at Loggfest and we are delighted to welcome him back with his easy listening music.

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(Above: Sir Bradley Wiggins being cheered on as he passes the Swan Inn.)

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GET COOKING WITH CAFFI FLORENCE CHEFS



Squash, red lentil and coconut soup

CULINARY thoughts inevitably turn to soup once autumn is upon us.

This is a fantastic recipe that is equally good for Saturday lunch, a Halloween party or even a dinner party with a good garnish. It works well with any solid squash such as a pumpkin or butternut or if you are lucky, some more exotic varieties you may have grown.

Ingredients to serve four:

Pumpkin or squash – about 500g	250ml coconut milk
225g of red lentils	Two onions
3/4 litre vegetable stock	Two tbsp olive oil salt & pepper

Method

Sautee chopped onions in oil. Add roughly chopped squash and lentils and stir for two-three minutes. Add stock and continue to cook for a further 30 minutes until squash is soft. Add coconut milk and heat gently. Puree soup, taste and season.

Toasted pumpkin seeds would make a perfect garnish to make this extra special. Wash and dry seeds, place on a baking sheet and sprinkle with a little salt before placing in a hot oven for about 10 mins or until just turning golden.

Really warming and delicious!

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No Longer An Ugly Duckling !

THE Swan Inn has been given a fresh coat of paint thanks to a great team effort by friends and regulars of the popular village pub.



Delays by the brewery meant licensee Kevin Thomas faced the daunting task of whitewashing and painting the whole building himself. He was delighted therefore when locals got together for a "day of action" on 20th July.

Kevin recalls, "We started at 9am. Over 20 people were involved and by 5pm the same day we had everything finished. It really was a case of many hands making light work and I cannot thank them enough."

Courtesy of the brewery, the volunteers were supplied with free beer. "With an eye to quality of work, I did keep this until later in the day!" continued Kevin.

The Swan Inn was first licensed in 1868. It has served generations of farm workers, miners and travellers wending their weary way up Gwernymynydd Hill.

In modern times, despite the closure of many public houses, including of course the recent closure of the Rainbow Inn at the top of the village, the Swan's welcoming and friendly atmosphere helps it maintain its popularity. It is home to the village Sunday League football team, a darts team and a monthly book club. With a refit of the interior now underway, Kevin looks forward to serving residents for many years to come.

The painting crew are pictured overleaf. (We thank the Swan Inn for paying the cost of printing the extra colour pages.)



Gwernfest Music Festival

Saturday 28th June 2014

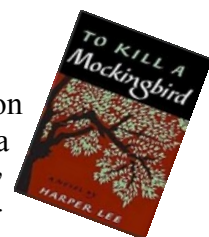
THE GWERNFEST Group is looking to showcase local musical talent at an outdoor family event planned for next summer.

The Gwernfest Music Festival will take place at the Village Centre. With stalls and displays as well as the music it promises to be a great family day out.

Any bands, group or individuals with musical talent who would be interested in playing to a large audience should contact Neil Worthington at gwernfest@gmail.com.

Gwernymynydd Book Club

Recently discussed books: *Westwood* (Stella Gibbon); *The Six Wives of Henry VIII* (Alison Weir); *Oh Dear Sylvia* (Dawn French); *Gone Girl* (Gillian Flynn); *The Stranger* (Camilla Lackberg); *The Summer of the Bear* (Bella Pollen); *Me Before You* (Jo Moyes); *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Henry Fry* (Rachel Joyce). Current Group Read *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Harper Lee). Club meets 7.30 first Wednesday of the month at Swan Inn. All welcome.



SWAN PHOTO

SWAN PHOTO

Café Gwernymynydd

**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
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RESIDENTS dug deep and raised an urn full of cash for Macmillan Cancer Support through a special coffee afternoon in the village.

The village centre was packed as residents enjoyed a cup of coffee or tea and listened to the village school choir who performed a number of contemporary numbers.

One of the organisers, community councillor Shirley Hughes, says she was delighted with the turn-out and the amount of money the event raised.

She said: "As ever we had donations of some wonderful cakes which all sold really well and pupils from the village school put on a beautiful performance which was really appreciated.

"In total more than £435 was raised for what is a fantastic cause. We were really pleased at the number of people who came out for what has become an annual social event."



COFFEE AND CREAM: Pam Bradshaw tries to tempt Gwernymynydd resident Jean Caddick into having a slice of lemon cake with her coffee.



RAFFLE: Holly Pugh and Dexter, aged one, of Gwernymynydd buy a raffle ticket from volunteers, June Perrin, left, and Tina Boswell.



SING: Gwernymynydd CP School pupils enjoy a slice of cake after performing at the Macmillan Cancer Care coffee afternoon at the village centre. Left, headteacher Louise Williams, and right, County Councillor Nancy Matthews, with school pupils watch as pupil Amba makes a donation to Macmillan Cancer Care organiser Shirley Hughes.

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Llandudno Lunch Date in Memory of Friends

NO FEWER than 31 members of the Village Lunch Club enjoyed a trip out to Llandudno last month.

Leaving the village at 10am the first port of call was Conwy for a stroll and a coffee before lunch at the St Kilda Hotel, Llandudno.

On the return journey they called at the Tweedmill in St. Asaph.

The cost of the coach was met by the estate of the late Mr Dennis Hughes who passed away on May 30th this year.

Dennis was a founder member of the Club and enjoyed the organised events as he was able to meet old friends and make new ones.

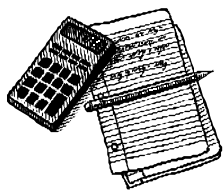
Both he, and his wife, Rosemary, who died in 2012, were born in Mold and they lived in the area all their lives. They are both much missed by their family and friends. They loved visiting Llandudno and often called at the town of Conway on the way.

Elwyn Owens, one of the organisers of the Club, said: "We are very grateful to the Hughes family for their generosity. Club members had an enjoyable time on Thursday and over lunch drank an affectionate toast to the precious memory of Dennis and Marie".

The Club was set up during 2012 and it organises lunch events each month at a modest cost for senior citizens and those who are not able to get out very much and who live in Gwernymynydd and the surrounding villages.

They meet at Caffi Florence, The Druid in Llanferres and the Plas Hafod in Gwernymynydd.

For more information contact Elywn Owens on (01352) 755157.



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A Word Or Two from Nancy

We are having a busy time in Gwernymynydd at the moment.

I was delighted that the Macmillan coffee afternoon raised in excess of £400 for what is a great charity. But it was about more than just raising money.

We were fortunate to have pupils from the village school to entertain us - the cake-eating choir! While it was also an opportunity to catch up with friends.

On Saturday, October 12th there is a 1940's evening at the Village Centre.

If you came to the Hotpot supper last October you will remember what a good night it was. This is a very different show by Martin Barry, but promises to be just as good a night. The £10 ticket includes supper and there is a fully licensed bar as well. Come and join us for what will be a great night out!



Portrait of Rare Garden Visitor

THIS stunning portrait of a sparrow hawk enjoying its dinner was taken in the back garden of Pat and Dave Thornton's Uwch-y-Dre bungalow.

Have you spotted any rare bird or animal species in your village garden? We'd love to hear about any unusual sightings and see any pictures you manage to take.

Don't forget there is a dedicated Gwernymynydd and Cadole group on photo-sharing site Flickr and while we are trying to record a catalogue of village events, wildlife and scenes there are only a handful of contributors. It is free to join and upload so please take a few minutes to have a look and perhaps upload some of your shots of village life and its fauna and flora.

Pat and Dave Thornton would also like to thank everyone for their kind thoughts, cards and flowers after the recent loss of their much-loved pet dog, Polly. Thank you so much.

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Our Man In Westminster

It was really exciting to have the Tour of Britain cycle race come through Gwernymynydd.

Sadly, I missed the event but I hope it encouraged young villagers to take up riding. Cycling is an important part of keeping our nation healthy and reducing UK carbon emissions and I believe the wide-ranging social, health and economic benefits increased participation in cycling would bring are worth pursuing. I have recently taken part in debates in Westminster calling on the Government to continue examining what can be done to help build on the legacy of London 2012 and to get people onto bikes and safe on our roads.



David Hanson MP.

Last week I pledged my support, if elected in 2015, for the proposed freeze on gas and electricity bills for every home and firm for 20 months. I did this because people across Flintshire have been struggling for some time with rising prices and stagnant wages and this proposal will help save average households an estimated £120 and businesses £1,800.

The proposal to freeze energy prices, which are a source of genuine difficulty for many people, would be a real help and so I'm pleased to support it. I think for too long the big energy firms have passed on their costs and none of their savings leading to prices hitting new highs despite the difficult economic time so many people are facing. There has been little action from the Government to help, so I think this idea provides a real alternative that will help a lot of people.

Finally, I was also pleased to see Flintshire County Council turned down the application for more houses at Siglen Uchaf, Ruthin Road – the house numbers, in my opinion, were too many and would impact on drainage and the environment.

I hope the forthcoming public hearing will give villagers the chance to express further views on the application and that the wishes of the village and Flintshire councillors are listened to.

You can write to me at: David Hanson MP, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA or 64 Chester Street, Flint, Flintshire CH6 5DH. Phone: 01352 763159 or 0207 219 5064 or e-mail: hansond@parliament.uk

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Swans Back Down To Earth

GWERNYMYNYDD Swan have suffered a torrid time after a fruitless September left them with out a win or a goal.

Manager Glyn Jelley says he's hoping for an up-turn in results with the bookies making him one of the favourites for the sack if things don't improve!

He said: "We have really suffered from some bizarre results during the month not helped by some very strange decisions from some officials.

"We lost 0-6 to Claim Solutions and, without sounding bitter or insane for that matter, we were by far the better team! The ref gave them a two goal start with some bizarre decisions and somehow any shot they had went in while we chased the game and couldn't score thanks to a combination of bad luck and a very lucky goalie.

"We then lost 0-3 to title favourites Flint RBL despite playing well. Again we couldn't score but they hit three 30 yard screamers that were impossible to stop. So no arguments there."

He added: "The cup this year takes on a Champions League format. We won our first game 3-2 over the Castle. We then played Mechanics and drew 0-0 with a barebones side. We even had a goalkeeper playing left midfield and even the manager had to play.

"At least it puts us in a strong position to progress in what is a real 'group of death'.

"We are looking for the return of around six players in the coming weeks, some from injury and some from family commitments. So we are hoping things will improve. And it will be especially good to welcome back Ant Williams as he has now recovered from a broken leg."

The Gwernymynydd and Cadole newsletter is produced at the start of every month except for August and January. It is distributed to all houses along with local pubs and shops. To advertise please email villagecentre@gwernymynydd.org.uk

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