

# Gwernymynydd & Cadole

Newyddion y pentrefi / Village News

Mawrth / March 2014



**ANOTHER PANTO TRIUMPH**  
See pages 5,6 and 7

## Planning Inspector To Decide On Siglen Uchaf

Almost 50 villagers attended an informal hearing to decide the fate of a Wainhomes application to build 18 new dwellings on land at Siglen Uchaf.

The hearing, on Tuesday, March 4th, was called after the original Planning Inspector, who conducted a hearing last October, had been taken seriously ill and was unable to complete his report.

At the new hearing, the Planning Inspector who had been appointed by Welsh Ministers to determine whether the appeal by Wainhomes should be allowed, heard arguments from both sides. The hearing was necessary as Wainhomes appealed a Flintshire County Council's decision to refuse planning permission.

Many villagers at the hearing struggled to hold back laughter as the agent for Wainhomes told the planning inspector the four meter high retaining wall, that forms part of the plan, would be sympathetic to the village's character.

Village resident, Tom Rosedale, questioned where surface water from the site would go, what were the plans with regard to mine shafts on and near the proposed site as well as raising the issue of lead contamination should the former mine site be disturbed.

Gwernymynydd farmer, John Williams, raised concerns over contaminated water and made it clear he would not allow water from the site to go across his land as he feared for the health of his livestock.

Councillor Kevin Hughes, on behalf of the Community Council, told the Inspector that, on top of residents' fears over the retaining wall, road traffic concerns were a major issue. And he pointed out to the inspector, who later made a site visit, that with approval now granted to infill Cambrian Quarry it is anticipated there would be an additional 60 HGV movements a day through the village.

County Councillor Nancy Mathews says that, having heard all the evidence the Planning Inspector would now consider the evidence before coming to a decision.

She said: "There were some very valid and well-made arguments and the inspector certainly has a great deal to think about before coming to a decision. We can expect that decision sometime during April. I was delighted with the turn-out and conduct of the meeting."

## Step Out For Breast Cancer



FUNDRAISERS can do their bit and help Flintshire Breakthrough Breast Cancer Group raise a mountain of cash by taking part in a sponsored walk up Moel Famau.

The Saturday, April 5th event will be the seventh the group has organised and according to Gwen Kime (left) the total raised through the annual walk so far stands at £7,096.

Gwen of Uwch-y-Dre, said: “Once again the walk is supported by Troedio Clwyd Walks.

“There will be a choice of two walks, a short 2.5 mile stroll and a longer walk to the Jubilee Tower of 4.5 miles which will take around three hours.

“We can accept donations on the day of £5 to join and we have sponsorship forms available now on request so people can really get involved and help us raise some serious cash.

We’d love to see you there!”

If you would like to support Flintshire Breakthrough Cancer Group please meet at the lower car park at Moel Famau Country Park at 9.30am to register ready for a 10am start.

Don’t forget you need £1 to open the car park barrier, please don’t park on the road.

For sponsor forms or further information call (01352) 753807 or (01244) 341382



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## Farewell to a Gentleman

A POPULAR former village man has lost his long fight with cancer.

John 'Jack' Dixon passed away on January 31st after a long battle with a disease he fought courageously while never losing his cheerful outlook on life.

The former Godre'r Coed resident moved down to Mold, with his wife Gwen, a few years ago with the couple planning to spend up to six months a year in France.

Gwen says she, and her late husband, enjoyed their many years living in the village and have many memories of some wonderful friends and neighbours.

She said: "Our daughters Jackie and Helen, who lives in the village, and our grandchildren, Mike, Tom, Sam, Dan and Leanne, are so grateful for the many messages of support and the kindness shown to us by so many friends from Gwernymynydd following John's death.

"John never lost his sense of humour and remained cheerful, right through his chemotherapy and radiotherapy, in fact, right to the very end. He was comforted by his deep faith, something which was very, very important to him.

"I would also like to pay tribute to Nightingale House Hospice which is such an amazing and remarkable place. I cannot speak too highly about the wonderful care John received there."



*SADLY MISSED: John 'Jack' Dixon, pictured with his wife Gwen, has passed away.*



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## Canine Issues Create A Stink

DOG fouling continues to be a real problem in the village with Cadole a current hot-spot for complaints.

Owners are reminded that anyone caught not clearing up after their pets faces a large fine.

And while Cadole residents have seen a rise in dog fouling incidents according to Community Councillor Vicky Hinstridge, incidents are occurring all over the village.

She said: "What we are experiencing in Cadole is dog dirt being found on a set few stretches of road which leads me to think it is one owner, using a regular route and failing to clear up after their pets. However, we have also been getting reports of dog dirt being found on pavements and grassed areas near the village school.

"We would ask dog owners to be more considerate and can promise that the Community Council **will** take action if we can identify those responsible."

## Are Thieves Going Green? Or Are They Just Plain Stupid

PUTTING the rubbish out proved traumatic for one village resident as her recycling box and bags were stolen.

And to make it worse the resident, who does not wish to be named, says it isn't the first time it has happened.

The Ruthin Road householder said: "It may seem trivial but it just seems so ridiculous. I saw them being emptied but didn't get a chance to bring them in and when I returned home at 2pm they had been taken!

"I've searched around but to no avail. Can you believe somebody could be so desperate to steal somebody's recycling bin and bags for the second time ?

"Obviously I can get more and they are free but indirectly they are paid for through taxation and we should be conscious of limiting our replacements."

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DOMESTIC INSTALLER

## Panto Scales New Heights



GWERNYMNYDD Village Centre was transformed into a magic kingdom as the village Pantomime Group put on their latest show.

This year's performance of Jack and the Beanstalk is the fourth show the hard-working group have performed since it was formed in 2009.

Karen Jones, chair of the group, says this year's show had a cast of 19 village youngsters and adults.

She said: "All the hard work has proved worth the effort and we have played to packed houses. The community has once again come together and put on a wonderful show.

"So many people are involved, it isn't just about the 19 on stage. There are costume designers, hair and make-up artists, sound and lighting technicians and we even have chaperones on hand to ensure children are looked after.

"Sian Williams has directed her first pantomime and done a great job, the youngsters have really responded to her."

She added: "This is the first time we have performed Jack and the Beanstalk and all the proceeds will be ploughed back into the group and go toward next year's show.

"Everyone involved has been fantastic and I'm thrilled with the success of the show and the continued good work of the Pantomime Group in general."

Director Sian Williams, 25, of Chester, studied drama at Preston and says it's been a fantastic experience putting the show together.

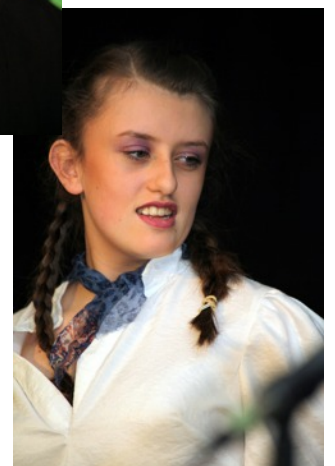
She said: "We started in September and everyone has worked so hard. There were a few first night nerves but everyone did so well.

"It's been brilliant the way adults and children from the village work together and they all deserve their success."

For more pictures from Jack and the Beanstalk turn to pages 6-7

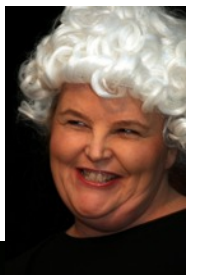
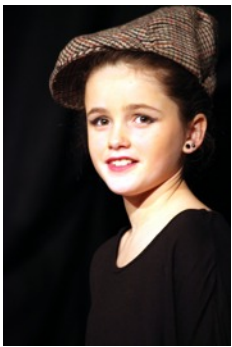
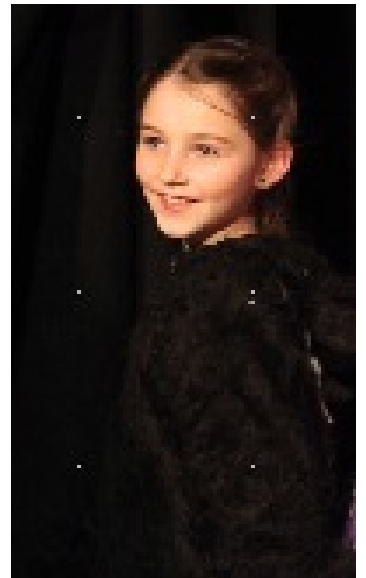
*Top Picture DIRECTING: Sian Williams gives Ben Singleton some last minute instructions at a dress rehearsal whilst the glamorous Karl Jackson looks on.*

# JACK AND THE



Pantomime Group 2014

# BEANSTALK



Thanks to the Gwernymynydd Panto Group for sponsoring this centre spread (Photos Kevin Hughes)

## A Word Or Two from Nancy

I'm still working toward the provision of a new street light on Gwernaffield Road at Cadole and there is also a plan to alter the Village Road junction but it's subject to availability of cash. It's a case of watch this space I am afraid.



.....

I am aware of the continued problems caused by inconsiderate drivers parking on the A494 while they visit Loggerheads Country Park. Parking is actually the responsibility of Denbighshire County Council at this point, and of course the police.

We are aware North Wales police officers are enforcing parking regulations where there are double yellow lines and tickets are being issued.

The problem seems to be that visitors going to Loggerheads are now parking further up in Cadole as a direct result of the restrictions now in place on the A494. In fairness, the Trunk Road Agency did warn us that there might be displacement parking once the yellow lines were put in place.

Hopefully, by working with Denbighshire County Council and the police we can alleviate the problems caused by inconsiderate drivers parking recklessly.

.....

I was interested to read an article in The Times recently regarding the theft of red post boxes. Of course we are still waiting for our post box in Cadole to be replaced following the theft of the original one a few weeks ago.

It seems that gangs are stealing red post boxes and selling them to collectors abroad, particularly in the US, via websites such as e-Bay.

Some boxes have been ripped from lamp posts and telegraph poles, while others have been pulled out of the ground or even chiselled out of brick walls.

Apparently boxes dating back to Queen Victoria's reign and bearing the VR mark, similar to ours, can fetch up to a staggering £5,000 in the US.

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To express an interest in learning computers please contact Shirley Hughes:

Tel: 01352 755243

Mobile: 07880803899 e-mail: shirleyahughes@live.com

If there is enough interest within the community, I then plan to book sessions in the Village Centre or 1:1 in the comfort of your own home.





## Spring Clean For Village

A COMMUNITY event will see the village spruced up.

Families, teenagers and adults are being asked to support a Community Council initiative which will see plastic and glass bottles, tins and litter collected from village lanes and back roads.



And, thanks to sponsorship from Allan Morris Transport and ASH Waste Management, every young person who takes part will receive a free Easter Egg while there will be an afternoon of free coffee, tea and cakes for pensioners.

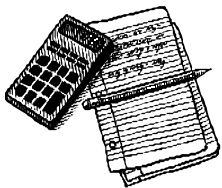
The Thursday, April 17th event will get underway from the Village Centre and will see groups heading out with special litter pickers and bags to collect bottles, cans and rubbish from Swan Lane, Glyndwr Road, Cadole Road, Hafod Road and Ffordd Las.

Community Council leader, Marjorie Thomson, says it will be a chance for the community to come together and accomplish something really worthwhile.

She said: "Cllr Nancy Matthews has arranged for County Council kit to be available so we will have all the right equipment. We want to see as many people out there as possible. Children under 12 need to be accompanied for safety reasons but this will hopefully be a real family event.

"Also, thanks to the sponsorship we have obtained from Alan Morris Transport and ASH Waste Management, we plan on having tea, coffee and cakes available all afternoon in the village centre. While children will receive an Easter Egg. We think there are literally thousands of plastic and glass bottles lying in ditches and hedgerows, all of which are harmful to wildlife. Everything collected will be recycled of course."

Details of when to meet at the Village Centre will be included in next months newsletter and leaflets will be given to every pupil of the village school before they break up for the Easter holidays. Please make a note in your diary and try and support this event. Watch this space!



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# Our Man in Westminster<sup>10</sup>

## Broadband roll-out

I was pleased to meet with BT this month to discuss broadband rollout in Flintshire. This will improve the speed ranges for those accessing services which is fundamental for people to work, shop and business in our increasingly interconnected world.

People can visit [www.superfast-cymru.com/where-and-when](http://www.superfast-cymru.com/where-and-when) for details of when and where the broadband roll out is happening.

## Centenary of the First World War

I was pleased to be part of the launch of the Heritage Lottery Fund's (HLF) new small *David Hanson MP* grants programme, First World War: Then and Now, which will allow people in Gwernymynydd to secure funding to mark the centenary of the First World War.

The HLF is making at least £1m available per year for six years and will provide grants of between £3,000-£10,000 to enable groups to explore, conserve and share their First World War heritage and deepen their understanding of the impact of the conflict. The programme can also provide funding for the conservation of war memorials. To find out more about its legacy or, if you wish to mark the centenary, I would urge people to get in touch with the HLF or details can be obtained from my office (details below).

## Police cuts

I've recently voted against government plans to further cut police funding as figures show we've already lost 118 officers in Flintshire since 2010. I know from correspondence people in the village care about this issue.

Whilst crime levels have stayed relatively low in our area, I don't think we can be complacent about crime. So, I'm worried these levels of cuts might be hollowing out our local force and I've been campaigning hard against them. You can see the latest local crime statistics at <http://www.police.uk/north-wales/FSW26/crime/2013-11/>

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## Michelle And Hannah Zip It Up

TWO village women tackled a charity zip slide challenge to raise bucket loads of cash for the Dean Puplett Appeal.

Michelle Williams, 34, who runs Eyelicious, a brow and lash boutique based within Mold's Tanz and Hanz beauty salon, joined organiser Hannah Hunter, 23, and more than 15 other fundraisers for the charity challenge.

Professional model Hannah, who also works as a receptionist for her dad's Altami-based firm, Hunter Steel, came up with the idea in an effort to boost the fundraising Crown and Glory Beauty Pageants already does to help the Appeal.

Dean Puplett, seven, of Mold, was diagnosed when he was four with Stage IV High Risk Neuroblastoma and, although currently clear of cancer, he could relapse and would need expensive treatment in America.



*INTREPID PAIR: Michelle Williams, left, and Hannah Hunter*

Despite her fear of heights Michelle says the zip wire challenge was awesome. She said: "We have hopefully raised a good few hundred pounds for Dean's charity so it was definitely worth it even if it was terrifying!"

Michelle will be fundraising for Dean again when she represents Gwernymynydd in the Sunday, March 23rd final of Miss Crown & Glory at the Beaufort Park Hotel, New Brighton in the Mrs category - for those married or over 30. Hannah Hunter, a Miss Wales 2014 finalist, is also a director of Crown and Glory Beauty Pageants, and says she wants to raise as much as possible for the Dean Puplett Appeal.

She said: "We raised a really fantastic amount for Dean at the September pageant and I wanted to get a few people involved with the zip wire challenge.

"It's an important charity and it's vital there are sufficient funds available to pay for Dean's treatment in America should he relapse. If he doesn't use the money, and hopefully he won't, then another family will benefit."



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*GO FOR IT: Michelle Williams takes to the skies during her zip wire challenge.*

## Unsporting Behaviour Angers Swans

GWERNYMYNYDD Swan got back onto the football pitch following the recent bad weather and storms - and wished they hadn't.

In a competitive game they went down to a narrow 2-3 defeat but manager Glyn Jelley says the game was ruined by the antics of the opponents.

He said: "We were away to Claims Solutions. It was a nothing game in the group phase of the cup as they couldn't qualify and we already had.

"However, one of their team head-butted a Swan player, then numerous Claims Solution players began throwing punches. The referee clearly feared for his own safety and did precisely nothing.

"We were very close to just walking off and refusing to carry on. We might well have done so as our then winning position ended up becoming a losing one with the game out of control."

Glyn says on a happier note the Swan team wish to congratulate veteran Mike Roberts on the birth of his beautiful daughter, Pippa.

## Girls Go That Extra Charitable Mile

TWO Village girls are taking the plunge for Sport Relief.

Kendall Thomas and Ebony Rowley, both 10 and pupils of the village school, have signed up to take part in the Sport Relief Swimathon on Sunday, March 23rd.

The plucky pair, who have not long learned to swim, aim to complete 60 lengths during the sponsored swim and are hoping to raise a good few pounds in support of the televised charity event.

## Children's Parties

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