

# Gwernymynydd & Cadole

Newyddion y Pentrefi - Community Nov - Dec 2017

**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**



*These snow angels had a great time sledging at the village school after the heavy snowfall.*

**FOR MORE SNOW PICTURES SEE PAGE 10!**

December arrived with the heaviest snowfall we have seen in the village for a number of years.

Icy snow covered roads proved a real problem over a number of days but Councillor Kevin Hughes says every effort was made by the county's Streetscene teams to get roads gritted as quickly as possible.

He said: "The guys worked flat out around the clock but, quite rightly, they had to concentrate on arterial roads. What was good to see was the real community spirit evident across Gwernymynydd and Cadole.

"There were many examples of people helping their neighbours in lots of ways throughout the cold snap.

"Of course not everyone disliked the snow as children got an extra day of school which many used to go sledging using the snow-covered slope in the school playground as the perfect place.

However, there were quite a few adults keen to have a go too!"

He added: "At least the snow has more or less cleared for the time being and let's hope we get some respite. I suppose a white Christmas would be nice – but only for a couple of hours perhaps!

"I'd just like to wish everyone a really happy Christmas and New Year. Please remember to look out for neighbours and please don't drink and drive – it really isn't worth it."

Chair of Gwernymynydd and Cadole Community Council, Vicky Hintridge, said: "On behalf of the council I too would like to wish everyone a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

"I would also ask that we all think of people who may be alone this Christmas for whatever reason. If you can invite an elderly person, or someone who lives alone, around for a mince pie and a glass of mulled wine it might just make all the difference."



# Pupils Pull In the Pounds for Pudsey

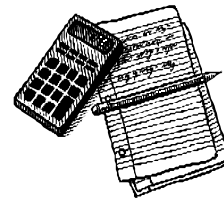
Children at the village school helped swell the Children in Need coffers after raising more than £150.

Pupils paid a small fee to wear something different to school and there were lots of Pudsey-themed costumes on show. The school's acting head teacher, Daffyd Johnson says pupils always enjoy special dressing-up days.

He said: "It's always nice to see children coming to

school happy and enjoying something different. To raise more than £150 is a fantastic achievement and I'm very proud of everyone at the school, pupils and staff, for getting behind the fundraising for Pudsey."

He added: "Events like Children in Need Day help children to learn citizenship and that there are many young people around the world that need lots of help."



**David I. Smith**

**Chartered Certified  
Accountant with 20  
years experience**

- Accountancy and bookkeeping
- Income tax/self assessment
- Corporation tax
- Value added tax (V.A.T.)
- Payroll/C.I.S.
- General business advice
- Free initial consultation
- Fixed fees
- Home visits

**ACCA**

**Call 01352 740166 or 07748 417261**  
[d.smith989@btinternet.com](mailto:d.smith989@btinternet.com)



# We Will Remember Them



Sylvia Vaughan lays the wreath on behalf of the village alongside piper Nial Borthwick.



Some of the children from the village who read out poems with Cameron Bowness and Tyla Hollingson of Mold Squadron 1378 Air Cadets.

Villagers turned out in force to remember the fallen at a Service of Remembrance held at the village centre.

The Community Council organises the Remembrance Sunday event every year and councillors were delighted at the turn out for this year's event.

Cllr Carl Jackson said: "It's a special day and one we should never forget. The numbers of villagers who attend goes up each year and I was so pleased to see so many this year despite the poor weather. We had to hold most of the service inside the community centre but thankfully the rain abated in time for us to go outside for the two minutes silence from 11am."

He added: "We were also grateful to Cameron Bowness and Tyla Hollingson of Mold Air Cadets 1378 Squadron who attended in uniform and Nial Borthwick, from the village, who played the Last Post on the bagpipes.

"And, as they do every year, we are so grateful to the Stephenson family who rang the old school bell at their home at 11am. This year the wreath was laid on behalf of the village by Sylvia Vaughan who uncle, G Robinson, is inscribed on the village war memorial.

"It was also a pleasure to have children from the village school come along and read poems they had written which described remembrance and what it means to them. They did the school and the village proud."

## Village Memorial Garden Almost Complete

Community councillors are delighted with the work done on enhancing the garden at the front of the village centre.

Thanks to ASH Waste Management and Hanson Cement the trees have been lopped and are now going to be properly managed.

The standing area in front of the war memorial has been extended meaning it is easier for more people to attend the Remembrance Day Service.

The rockery to the side of the war memorial has been improved and the fence posts at the front of the garden have been painted.

Boulders have been brought in to form a border around the standing area and spring bulbs planted. It's now hoped to replace the wire fencing at the front of the garden and to install a solar powered

light to illuminate the war memorial for a few hours each evening.

And an inscribed plaque has been secured to a large boulder in the centre of the garden dedicating the garden to the village.

The plan now is to form a gardening team from interested villagers who might like to get involved in planting up flower beds and boxes, hanging baskets and generally caring for the garden from the spring.

Anyone interested should speak to any community councillor.



# Council Matters



It's now approaching seven months since I was elected to represent the village as a Flintshire County councillor and it's a role I'm slowly coming to terms with.

I never knew just how involved things would be and the broad range

of issues I have become involved in on behalf of residents.

It's really interesting and it's a role I thoroughly enjoy especially when I'm able to take action or guide a resident to the officer or agency that can and does help.

There is no better feeling than knowing you have made a difference and made someone's life that little bit easier or better.



I also became heavily involved in a Council Notice of Motion against The Sun newspaper due to the newspapers conduct immediately after and since the Hillsborough Disaster.

It's not that I want to see free speech curtailed or some form of censorship in Flintshire but I do believe the Sun's conduct immediately after the disaster and over the years since has been appalling.

And contrary to some media reports we didn't seek to ban The Sun in Flintshire but simply sought the council's support for retailers and vendors who chose not to sell what is a despicable and hate-filled tabloid.



I have also been playing the role of a Dragon at a number of Flintshire secondary school helping out with the Hope House Children's Hospice Dragon's Lair Challenge which forms part of the Welsh Baccalaureate.

So far I have been to Harwarden High, Castel Alun and Sir Richard Gwyn Catholic High in Flint and have even managed to ensure Nancy Matthews doesn't get any thoughts about retiring by getting her involved to!

It's staggering to see just how much talent we have among our 14 and 15 year old students and the innovative ideas and hard work they put into their fundraising schemes is simply amazing.



I was also delighted to support the Flintshire branch of WASPI - Women Against State Pension Inequality.



The branch, of what is a national campaigning group, was set up by Jane Roberts who lives in the village.

Nationally WASPI represents almost 3.8 million women born in the 1950's who have been adversely impacted by inadequate notification of an increase in the State Pension Age.

The 1995 State Pension Act included plans to increase women's state pension age from 60 to 65 so it became the same as men's.

WASPI agrees with equalisation, but does not agree with the unfair way the changes were implemented.

Because of the way the increases were brought in, hundreds of thousands of women born in the 1950s (on or after 6th April 1951) have been hit particularly hard with many women suffering financial hardship, through having insufficient time to re-plan for retirement.

Having looked into the issue I'm shocked at how many women have been treated and was delighted to second a Notice of Motion, which was carried, asking for the council's support in backing WASPI.

I intend to continue to help Jane and her fellow WASPI members in any way I possibly can.

To find out more about WASPI please visit [www.waspi.co.uk/flintshire-waspi](http://www.waspi.co.uk/flintshire-waspi) or email [waspiflntshire@gmail.com](mailto:waspiflntshire@gmail.com)

To contact me at any time please call 07711 951909 or email me at [kevin.hughes@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:kevin.hughes@flintshire.gov.uk) or [kevinmhughes348@live.com](mailto:kevinmhughes348@live.com)



## He's Behind You!

The village pantomime company's new production Babes in the Wood will hit the stage at the village centre between February 15th and 18th with a matinee performance on the Saturday.

Tickets go on sale on January 3rd and are expected to sell like hot cakes. Speak to Karen Jones on (01352) 752514 or any committee member about tickets.

It's a show not to be missed!

## Move it or Lose it

The new Move It or Lose It classes on Wednesdays in the village hall are going really well.

We do need to point out though that there is no upper or lower age limit. The last newsletter stated the classes were for the over 60 which isn't the case.

The classes are run by qualified instructor Jill Blandford every Wednesday between 10:30am and 11:30am.

For more information contact Jill at [Jill.blandford@moveitorloseit.co.uk](mailto:Jill.blandford@moveitorloseit.co.uk) or call her on 07449 631836.

## School Federation Named

School council members from the village school and Ysgol y Waun, Gwernaffield met up at the Plas Hafod Hotel to discuss what name should be given to the new school federation.

Head teacher of Ysgoil Y Waun, who will lead the federation when it comes into force in February, Louise Ankers, said: "There were three names suggested and we then balloted pupils of both schools. The Hafod Federation came out as the clear winner receiving 59% of the votes.

"We have now launched a competition inviting all pupils to design a logo for the federation over the Christmas holiday with the winner being announced in January."



*School council members at the Plas Hafod Hotel. (Pic by Emma Williams)*

## Many Thanks

Retired community councilor Keith Taylor wishes to thank his neighbours Ian, Malcolm and Dylan for all their help and efforts in clearing the snow from the top of Bryn Eithin not once but several times after the recent fall.

Keith says residents worked hard keeping the Llys Enfys estate as clear as possible.

And he says a special thanks to Gwernaffield's Mike the Milk who managed to keep milk and egg deliveries going throughout the cold snap.

## Thinking Caps On!

A quiz night is planned at the Plas Hafod Hotel on Friday February 2nd to celebrate and support the new Hafod Federation

It will also be a good way for both sets of parents to get to know one another.

It's at 7pm ready for a 7:30pm start with tickets costing £5 to include a hot pot supper which is being donated by the Plas Hafod Hotel.

There will also be a charity raffle with all funds raised from the event split equally between the two schools.



# We Wish You a M



The Plas Hafod Hotel was rocking around the Christmas tree as members of the village Lunch Club enjoyed their festive get-together and meal. Almost 60 members enjoyed a traditional Christmas lunch and followed that up with a good old fashioned sing-along led by local entertainer Barry Matkin. Organiser June Perrin says the event was, as always, a really good and enjoyable day with fabulous food and good company.

She said: "I have to thank Marilyn Matkin and Jane Owens for all their help as we arranged the event together. We meet monthly and enjoy lunches at various

## Children's Parties

At Gwernymynydd Village Centre

Contact: Donna Worthington

07900 938 850



From £35 including bouncy castle





# Merry Christmas!



venues around the region including the Plas Hafod.

“The Plas Hafod always does us proud and put on a wonderful Christmas lunch and everyone has had a really lovely time. Barry was fabulous and really entertained, he certainly had everybody singing along.”

She added: “We also had a really good raffle thanks to the generosity of a number of local companies and businesses and their kind support. Anyone interested in learning more about the lunch club should e-mail me at [juneperrin@live.com](mailto:juneperrin@live.com) or speak to any committee member.”





# Festive Fun

Tea, coffee, mince pies and Christmas cake were on the menu at the Community Council's annual afternoon tea party.

Boxes of presents were collected from villagers and pupils from the village school that have now been presented to Flintshire's Domestic Abuse Safety Unit.

Community council chair Vicky Hinstridge says she is delighted with the response to the Christmas box appeal.

She said: "We asked for gifts of a practical nature that might help a women and children who have to seek a place of refuge this Christmas. Things like toiletries, shampoos and conditioners, deodorants that type of things and some new toys.

"Once again the response from families of pupils who attend the village school has been amazing but we have had a really good response from across the village."

She added: "It's the second year we have held this event which is designed to bring the community together while enjoying a mince pie or two. Sadly the numbers of people attending this year was way down on last December which was a real shame.

"However, those that did attend had a great time and we raised quite a bit of money through the raffle which will now be donated to the village school."



## STEVE GROCOTT

### GENERAL BUILDER • ROOFER

- SLATING • TILING • FELT FIXING •  
GENERAL GROUND WORK
- KERBS • SLABBING • BLOCK PAVING •  
• PIPEWORK • ETC

3 Heol-y-Wern, Gwernymynydd,  
Mold, Flintshire CH7 4AH

Tel/Fax: 01352 751013

Mobile: 07957 785281

**Collingwood  
Chimneys**  
01352 810569

- All aspects of chimney works undertaken
- Different chimney linings for all appliances and fuel types
- Wood and multifuel stoves supplied and fitted
- Full chimney sweeping service for all appliances and fuel types
- Prefabricated chimney systems supplied and fitted
- Pots / bird deterrents / cowls supplied and fitted
- Stacks rebuilt / pointed / structural repairs
- Fully insured, qualified and guaranteed service

Call Dan on : 07983387795 / 01352810569

Email : [dan.collingwood@gmail.com](mailto:dan.collingwood@gmail.com)





# Our Man in Westminster



## **Autumn Impact for North Wales Budget:**

For years I have been working with North Wales MPs to ensure the North Wales Growth Deal becomes a reality.

This would see a deal struck with councils across North Wales

which would give them direct investment for infrastructure spending and support for businesses.

We need to have improved connections with Liverpool and Manchester to ensure we can harness the benefits of tourism to North Wales and so residents can quickly and easily make their way to two of the major English cities.

I hoped the Budget would announce the scheme was finally going ahead. We were told in the Autumn Statement 2016 and the Spring Budget 2017 that this deal would get the green light.

It was again mentioned in this Budget but with the caveat that it will only be an investigation into the implementation of the deal.

The introduction of the North Wales Growth Deal is vitally important for our local economy. If it doesn't come to pass it will mean we will miss out on economic growth and decent jobs. I'm determined to make the Growth Deal become a reality.

## **Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**

We have seen the first snowfall of this winter and the nights have well and truly drawn in. The end of the year is upon us and now is the time when we look towards Christmas and the New Year.

I hope 2017 has been a good year for you and that 2018 will be filled with prosperity.

I want to take this opportunity to wish you all a very merry Christmas.

I hope this time of family and friends is a warm and happy one. It is a time for community and I

hope everyone has a chance to relax and enjoy the company of those nearest and dearest.

## **Surgery dates for 2018**

I am in the process of setting my surgery dates for 2018 and I will be in Gwernymynydd village centre on the 19th January, 2018 4pm-5pm.

As always, I see everyone on a first-come-first-serve basis. No appointment is needed.

You can get in touch with me by phone (01352) 763159, email at [david.hanson.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:david.hanson.mp@parliament.uk) or by post at 4 Trelawny Square, Flint. CH6 5NN.

David Hanson  
MP for Delyn

## **PHOTOS AVAILABLE**

Any parent who like a copy of any of the images in the newsletter should contact me at [kevinhughes348@live.com](mailto:kevinhughes348@live.com)

Images will emailed free of charge although a small donation made to the village school would be appreciated.

# M.L. Electrical

Electrical Contractors

Domestic & Industrial Installations

- All aspects of domestic work undertaken
- Maintenance contracts welcome
- Security & Fire Alarm Systems
- Competitive rates

Mob: 07967 055743

Tel: 01352 757658



12 Ffordd Fer, Mynydd Isa,  
Mold, Flintshire CH7 6XQ





# SNOW

With the village turned into a winter wonderland with all the snow here's a few images of children, mums, dads and grandparents having fun sledging and generally letting off steam at the village school.



## PLAS HAFOD

COUNTRY HOUSE HOTEL & RESTAURANT

Gwernymynydd CH7 5JS Phone 01352 700177



Experienced team of chefs personally supervised by Simon and Colette Buckley, the owners for 28 years.

Bar and restaurant open 7 days a week.

[www.plashafodhotel.com](http://www.plashafodhotel.com)



# JOKE



## The Most Thorough Carpet Cleaning You've Ever Seen Or It's Free

I've invested in the best cleaning systems possible giving a fantastic result on carpets and upholstery every time! I'll clean, deodorise and condition your items leaving them clean and fresh. We guarantee every job - if you're not satisfied we will re-clean for free. If you are still not happy we will refund your money. What could be fairer?

### Reasons to choose Clean Living

- Clean Living are proud members of the National Carpet Cleaning Association
- Clean Living technicians are I.I.C.R.C. certified
- Clean Living is an approved operator for PROmitem™

FREE Consumer info-line 24 hour recording  
How to choose a carpet cleaner 0800 695 1352

CALL **Clean Living** NOW ON  
**01352 730 555**

# STROUD ELECTRICS LTD

SCHEME   
Certificate Number ELP1545

- **New Installations**
- **Rewires (Full or Part)**
- **Inspecting & Testing**
- **Guaranteed & Insured**

**01352 756538**  
**07855 849518**

REGISTERED MEMBER



2 The Mount,  
Ruthin Road,  
Gwernymynydd,  
Mold, Flintshire, CH7 5JT



# The Back Page

## Don putts in at 90!

A Gwernaffield golfer determined to fulfil a long-held ambition took to the greens to score a hole at 90.

Donald Layfield ignored the driving rain to tackle the fairways of his beloved Mold Golf Club to celebrate his 90th birthday.

And he was joined by Marjorie, his wife of 65 years who is also a club member and who still plays regularly herself, as well other family members including their son Jonathan Layfield and daughter Donna Worthington who both live in the village.

John Evans, who also lives in Gwernymynydd and is the current club captain and the friends Don joins for a round of golf every Wednesday also turned out.

Don, who was born in 1927, joined Mold Golf Club in 1983 and was captain in 1998 and president in 2207 and 2008, and says although he now only manages to play once a week he wishes it could be more.

He said: "Golf has given me a great deal of pleasure and helped me make many friends over the years. It's fantastic Marjorie also plays and gets so much pleasure from the game.

"I have served on every club committee at one time or another. I did play of a handicap of 14 at one time but it's up to 26 now although I'm still quite hot when it comes to putting!"

Don, who originates from Birmingham before moving first to Buckley in the 1960's, then Pantymwyn and eventually Gwernaffield, added: "Golf has kept me active and young and it has always been an ambition to play on my 90th birthday.

"I still play in the club's mock alliance competition every Wednesday and really enjoy it. I have to use a golf buggy to get around now but at least I can still play."

In addition to Jonathan and Donna, Donald and Marjorie have four grandchildren, Steven, Rachel, Alexis and Daniel and three great grandchildren, Emily, Olivia and Amaya.



*Donald Layfield drives off from the tee on his 90th birthday.*

Mold Golf Club Captain John Evans said: "Donald is now our oldest playing member and has been a wonderful servant having been a past captain and president.

"He still plays regularly and it's wonderful he can still meet with friends and enjoy the game. It's been fabulous, despite the poor weather, meeting up to play a few holes on his 90th birthday celebrations."



*Donald Layfield on the green on his 90th birthday with club captain John Evans holding the flag watched by family members and golf club friends.*



*Golfing duo, Donald and Marjorie Layfield with their son Jonathan and daughter Donna.*