

# Gwernymynydd & Cadole

## NEWYDDION Y PENTREFI COMMUNITY NEWS

[www.gwernymynydd.org.uk](http://www.gwernymynydd.org.uk)

Hydref // October 2024



**BOOKING FOR VILLAGE CENTRE**  
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# VILLAGE CENTRE BOOKING CALENDAR OCTOBER

- |    |  |    |  |
|----|--|----|--|
| 1  | 19:30-22:00 Pantomime  | 19 | 12:00-20:00 Tea Party<br>GCC                                     |
| 2  | 10:00-11:00 Fit for Life   |    | 12:45-15:45 *PITCH*  |
| 3  | 09:30-13:30 Outside Lives<br>Home Economics  |    | CPD Yr Wyddgrug  |
|    | 14:00-16:00 Bowls  | 21 | 18:00-19:00 Pilates<br>19:30-22:00 Mountain<br>Harmony           |
| 7  | 18:00-19:00 Pilates<br>19:30-22:00 Mountain<br>Harmony                               | 22 | U3A 1015-1245<br>19:30-22:00 Pantomime                           |
| 8  | U3A 10:15-12:45<br>19:30-22:00 Pantomime   | 23 | 10:00-11:00 Fit for Life   |
| 9  | 10:00-11:00 Fit for Life   | 24 | 09:30-13:30 Outside Lives<br>Home Economics<br>14:00-16:00 Bowls |
| 10 | 14:00-16:00 Bowls  | 25 | 09:30-11:30 Coffee Morning                                       |
| 14 | 18:00-19:00 Pilates<br>19:00-20:30 GVC<br>Meeting<br>19:30-22:00 Mountain<br>Harmony | 26 | Autumn Litter Pick   |
| 15 | 19:30-22:00 Pantomime  | 28 | 18:00-19:00 Pilates<br>19:30-22:00 Mountain<br>Harmony           |
| 16 | 10:00-11:00 Fit for Life uk  | 29 | 19:30-22:00 Pantomime  |
| 17 | 14:00-16:00 Bowls  | 30 | 10:00-11:00 Fit for Life   |
|    |  | 31 | 14:00-16:00 Bowls<br>19:00-20:00 GCC                             |

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# VILLAGE CENTRE... PLEASE HELP.

## CAN WE BUCK THE TREND?

Nationwide, a long-term downward trend in volunteering is reported, with volunteering rates having fallen to record lows and the sharp decline seen during the pandemic proving difficult to reverse. Small charities are struggling to recruit and, as reported in the July newsletter, the Gwernymynydd Village Centre (G.V.C.) is no different.

## WHAT DO WE NEED?

The group of trustees who put their heads together on a monthly basis to keep the Centre running – safely, legally, cleanly, in credit and able to hold the community events it does - currently needs its numbers to swell a little to replace those who moved on this year after their much-appreciated stints. The better our numbers are, the easier our roles become for any one person.

## PLANNING AHEAD:

Come 2025 (not so far away), we'll be looking for people to join us for a year or two (or more!) as our Treasurer and Caretaker roles will become vacant in May. Picking up those reins will be very much easier with a period of handover, so we recommend joining by the Spring – but replacement is vital for the Centre to keep functioning.

## “THINKING CAPS” ON...

Our plea to every single person reading this: it could be you or it might be someone you know. It might be someone with a few hours to spare in the week or in a month because they are in part-time work, because the family has left home, because they are newly retired; because they have skills to share or a gap in their lives. Please rack your brains and spread the word, because without new blood, this fantastic Village Centre, its field and the events it holds is under threat.

## AND FINALLY, THE VERY PAGE YOU ARE HOLDING COULD BE THE LAST OF ITS KIND.

Both the Village Centre team and the Gwernymynydd Community Council (G.C.C.) can use the website above and the Facebook page (“Gwernymynydd & Cadole Village”) to share information. We know that not everyone loves or uses this kind of communication and it remains our firm belief that, to reach and include all sections of our community, the written word, the paper in the hand, still has its place. Gathering the latest news and views every couple of months and sending them off to the printer takes just a few hours but this issue is Nancy's swansong and, without a volunteer, this newsletter will cease to be. So...

## “THANK YOU, NANCY!”

On behalf of the G.C.C. and the G.V.C. and of every reader, thank you for every one of your many years of service. Thank you for spreading the words of celebrations and bereavements, of council matters and dates for the diary, of events to come and recent success.

**To find out more about volunteering in any capacity, please contact:  
Rhiannon Denham, Secretary for Gwernymynydd Village Centre on 07834484556  
or email her on:  
rhiannontudor@yahoo.co.uk. Feel free to ask for more information.**

# Newsletter Golden Anniversary

Amazingly, it's 50 years since the first edition of our Village Newsletter was published and it's fascinating to see how much has changed here during that time, and, in some cases, what has remained the same. For instance we are still asking for a speed reduction from 40 to 30 mph on the main road, but with telephone land lines for all who want them and the easy availability of mobile phones, no one today is petitioning for extra phone boxes.

The Newsletter was born in the '70s, when the little quarrying village of Gwernymynydd suddenly expanded as the Tros-y-Wern estate was built and a flood of young 'incomers' moved into the new houses, creating neat gardens from the muddy land and banding together to provide facilities for their growing families. The first two vibrant decades of modern Gwernymynydd were recorded on typewritten sheets of cheap paper and reproduced on the duplicator, the purchase of which was proudly heralded in the first paragraph of the first edition – no glossy paper and lovely colour photos then. But those simple news sheets chronicled an important period in our Village, when 'old' and 'new' residents came together in a wooden building,

erected on the new school field. The story of The Hut, as it became known runs through the early Newsletters, from initial fundraising by prospective Playgroup parents, to its erection by Territorial Army volunteers, then the installation of fixtures and fittings by groups of those Playgroup parents, and to its adoption by the Community Association as a Village Centre for a wide variety of groups.

Those early Newsletters record a village which held a summer Show and Gymkhana each year in a field in Cadole, a Bonfire each November on the Village Field, summer outings, Christmas shopping trips and Christmas Fayres, and regular communal visits to the theatre etc. It also reminds us that we had, as well as a Playgroup, a Mothers and Toddlers group, Senior Citizens, a Thursday Afternoon Club (for ladies), Cub and Brownie packs, Youth Club, Women's Institute and much more. It shows us how 'old' and 'new' Gwernymynydd and Cadole grew together.

To mark the 50th edition we have been able to load copies of all the editions from the first two decades on-line ([www.gwernymynydd.org.uk/newsletter-back-copies](http://www.gwernymynydd.org.uk/newsletter-back-copies)), where you will also find A

Photographic History of Gwernymynydd Village. It is wonderful to think that siblings Anne Harney, Gib Thomas, and their children, nephews and nieces who are descendants of 'old Gwernymynydd's' Nurse Roberts, are still much loved members of our community, but it's also heartening to see names such as that of Bob Roberts (a 1970's 'incomer') and Ken Sweetman (stalwart of Bonfires and Gymkhanas alongside his wife Olive) listed as initial Community Association committee members, and to know they are still very much with us. Children, grand-children and even great grand-children of the folk who built The Hut live in the Village today.

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**Hopefully one of those younger people, or someone who is a welcome twenty first century newcomer who understands what a great village this is, will step forward to edit the Newsletter, and prevent this edition from being the last.**

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Issue No.1. 1974

GWERNYMYNYDD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER.

We would like to open our first Newsletter by thanking everyone who has supported our fund-raising endeavours. We have now been able to purchase a duplicator which has fulfilled one of our primary aims, that is to produce this newsletter to enable us to furnish the village with news and information.

Annual General Meeting.

At the A.G.M. the committee reported that letters had been sent dealing with the following subjects;  
Speed limits. The standards as laid down by the Department of the Environment make the A494, the Main road, a 40 m.p.h. road and therefore to get it reduced would mean rather more drastic action than letters. The Authorities did however erect 30 mph signs at the entrance to the Tros-y-wern Estate.

Play Area. After numerous letters to Whelmar and the Council we would like to think we were successful in getting this area cleared of all the rubbish and having it landscaped sooner than it might have been.

Telephone Box. Following a request we wrote to the Telephone Manager asking about the possibility of moving the telephone box or installing ~~XXXX~~ another one. When we eventually had a reply the Telephone Manager had also enclosed a plan showing the new site for the box - on Hoel y wern, next to the Manweb substation. This site will be more convenient for the majority of the residents, particularly the elderly residents living in Blaen Wern, also the position should be less prone to vandalism. It might be a good idea to ask for another box at the top of the village near the Post Office.

Notice Board. We asked about the possibility of having a proper notice board for the Village. This resulted in the subject being brought up at a Community Council meeting and according to a Press report a number of villages, including ours, are going to get notice boards.

Future of Association. It was proposed by Councillor K. Bradley and seconded by Mr. J.E. Hughes that the committee be re-elected with the power to elect further committee members. This proposal was unanimously accepted. In effect it guaranteed the future of the Association for at least another year.

In July the old Church School was put up for sale and we called a meeting to investigate the possibility of the Council acquiring it for use as a Village Hall. We wrote letters to the Director of Education, the Chief Executive Officer of Clwyd and the Church Authorities, who all acknowledged receiving the letters. We were also promised that the subject would be brought up at Council meetings - Clwyd, Delyn and Community - but as yet we heard nothing. It now seems that the building has been sold subject to contract.

The roads Godrer Mynydd, Godrer Coed, Ger y llan, Uwch y dre and part of Hoel y wern have now been adopted by the Council.

We would like to wish Miss Pauline Squires, who came runner-up in the Mold Area heat of the MISS STEEL Competition, Good Luck in the Final. The Association has written to the Council asking for swings and slides to be provided for the play areas. It has been suggested that the small play area should be equipped with the very children in mind who cannot cross the main road alone - the very young children, and other swings and slides for the older children should be erected on the Village Field. It now appears that it will be quite some time before the present Junior School will be available for use as a Community Centre. The financial situation has delayed the building the second phase of the new school which is to house the Junior pupils. With this in mind as well as the fact that the Village Field is also on the other side of the Main road from the majority of children, it might be a good idea to press for a Pedestrian ~~bridge~~ bridge or a Panda crossing, somewhere on the main road.

## Footpaths... use them or lose them

We are lucky to have so many wonderful local walks which we can access from our front doors. Now, on-line maps such as [www.osmaps.com](http://www.osmaps.com) make it relatively easy to plan and follow routes accurately. And of course we should always be aware of following the "Countryside Code" – shutting gates, dogs on their lead, keeping to paths to avoiding cropped areas etc.

Thanks in particular to the efforts of our former councillor, the late Kevin Hughes, our local footpaths around Gwernymynydd and Cadole are generally well maintained with gates and stiles replaced and improved waymarking. More people, particularly since Covid, seem to be making use of them too which is a very welcome trend.

It is the responsibility Flintshire County Councils to maintain Public Rights of Way. If you come across an issue whilst on a walk then you can report it to the County Council on their website (search "Flintshire Rights of Way"). Other counties will have their own, similar systems. It may be for example a blocked off path, a broken stile or a missing or damaged signpost.

It is important to use our footpaths and help contribute to keeping them well maintained by reporting problems you encounter. If this is not done, a footpath can become neglected and not used meaning that it could eventually be closed if that was in the landowner's interest. Our footpaths have been in place for centuries, Please help to make sure they are still available for future generations to enjoy.

*Neglected stile below Ffordd Pentre Bach ▼*





# Afternoon



# Tea Dance



## Tea Cakes, and Savouries



## Raffle Dancing



Music From

## Ken Skingsley

On Keyboards



### Gwernymynydd Village Hall

Saturday 19th October 2-30 to 5-30 pm

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BOOK CLUB MEETS ON THE FIRST WEDNESDAY EACH MONTH IN THE SWAN AT 7.30-9PM

There are no set books come and recommend books you have read or pick up new titles

Alex Michaelides

*The Silent Patient*

Stieg Larsson

*The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest*

Stieg Larsson

*The Girl Who Played with Fire*

Joanne Harris

*The Moonlight Market*

Kate Atkinson

*Normal Rules Don't Apply*

### BOOK EXCHANGE

*There is now a book exchange in the foyer at the Village Centre.*

*It will be open during coffee morning on the last Friday each month to begin with.... and we will see how we go.*



**"We all want to leave as much as possible to loved**

**ones.** My husband, Scott and I want to make sure that as much of the money that we are working hard for now is protected and gets to our loved ones at the right time in the future. It can be uncomfortable to think about and discuss death or money, but having these conversations between us, and with our families, has reassured us and given us confidence about our financial future.

Five top tips that can help you ensure your loved ones benefit from your estate rather than HMRC include reviewing or writing your Will; gifting money to family to help them if they need it, for example helping them with a house deposit or education fees; saving more into your retirement pot; buying a life assurance policy and writing it into trust; and putting assets into trust which could benefit children or grandchildren when they reach adulthood.

If you would like us to help you make sure your money reaches the right people at the right time, please feel free to contact me on [katy.davies2@sjpp.co.uk](mailto:katy.davies2@sjpp.co.uk) or come and say hello if you spot me around the village!" *-Kate*

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If you have any newsworthy items you would like to include in future editions of the Gwernymynydd & Cadole community newsletter or for advertisement opportunities, please contact: Nancy Matthews: [sendittonancy@gmail.com](mailto:sendittonancy@gmail.com)

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