

Gwernymynydd & Cadole

NEWYDDION Y PENTREFI / COMMUNITY NEWS

Gwernymynydd.org.uk

Mehefin / June 2025

Coffee mornings – a monthly treat!



Fancy a cosy catch-up over a hot cup of coffee?

Then join us at the Village Centre between 10:00 and 11:30 on the last Friday of each month for our much-loved Coffee Morning!

Not only is it the perfect chance to re-connect with friends and neighbours, but you can also indulge in delicious homemade cake for just £1 - with gluten-free and dairy-free options available, so no one misses out on the treat.

Our recent fundraiser for the Wales Air Ambulance Coffee & Cake Campaign was a huge success, raising £136 to support this vital service!

Regional Fundraising Manager Debra Sima extends her heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed.

MORE FAMILY BINGO FUN

Get ready for another thrilling afternoon of bingo fun! After the success of our last session, we're back at the Village Centre on Saturday 5 July.

From 2-4pm, expect an action-packed event featuring not just bingo, but also an exciting raffle with fantastic prizes up for grabs! Delicious refreshments will be on hand to keep you going. Everyone's invited, so come along and have some fun!



WHAT'S ON AT THE VILLAGE CENTRE?

Find out at gwernymynydd.org.uk

FOR VILLAGE CENTRE BOOKINGS, PLEASE CONTACT:
bookings@gwernymynydd.org.uk

VE DAY: STITCHING A GREEN AND PLEASANT LAND

By Sue Elsley



This map was embroidered during World War Two by Joan, a young woman who would one day become my mother. Her war began when she and a friend enlisted in the Women's Royal Air Force.

Halfway through the war Joan found herself engaged in work of such importance that home leave was not an option. Instead, she spent her brief leisure hours stitching a map of the British Isles.

In simplistic terms she amused herself by working a pre-printed design; but it could also be argued that she, and others, escaped from grim wartime reality by crafting an idealised image of a place which, when anchored by silk thread, could become a once-and-future land coloured by nostalgia and hope.

Measuring 24 by 18 inches the map is large enough for its triple coastline to encircle more than sixty little symbols of Britishness.

Regional identities are celebrated by icons such as the rose, thistle, daffodil and shamrock, the English cyclist and fox, the kilted Scottish shepherd and Highland cow, the 'traditionally' dressed Welsh lady and Caernarfon Castle, and the pig and linen of Northern Ireland.

But the barrage balloon floating over St Paul's Cathedral, the intrusion of a corner of occupied France in close proximity to the white cliffs of Dover, and the flotilla of ships steaming towards the Continent are all indicators of the historical context in which the map was sewn.

Perhaps most significantly, the top right corner of the picture is filled by a heraldic shield, topped by a crown and supported by the lion and the unicorn, above which fly the flags of the Navy, Army and Air Force.

Joan's map is no exquisite work of art. Embroidered mainly in simple chain and satin stitch it is not even comparable in craftsmanship with the samplers worked by earlier generations of little girls.

However, it is a historical testament to wartime myth-making; an evocation of a Golden Age Britain to be loved and fought for. Although it has the visceral appeal of all folk art, for me it offers a tangible link to my mother and a glimpse into the life she lived before we met.

NEWS FROM GWERNYMYNYDD CP SCHOOL

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Part of the Hafod Federation with Ysgol y Waun, Gwernafield



British Science Week Children took part in a range of lessons, workshops and experiments. The action-packed timetable of events was supported by guest presenters from Hands on Science, Xplore! Science Discover Centre and STEM Ambassador Pete Webb. This unique collaboration, working across both our schools, allowed our children to work in different settings, gaining confidence and building relationships whilst participating in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) activities. Our children were provided with an amazing opportunity to be exposed to lessons and workshops that they wouldn't normally have. They have been dissecting hearts, pond dipping, coding robots and learning about the world around us, from fossils to astronomy. By focusing on STEM careers, children have a wider appreciation of the possibilities within the science, technology, engineering and maths industries, with some now making plans to be marine biologists or geologists when they are older.



Ruthin School Maths Challenge We entered two teams from our federation into the Year 5 Maths challenge and one team came third out of 75 children from across North Wales and Chester – well done to all involved.

Forest Schools This continues to be a highlight of the week in our school following the training of Mr Johnson to be our Forest School Leader.



Sunbeams Playgroup Plus - Early Entitlement, Playgroup, Toddlers, Wrap Around and After School Club Corey and her new team are raring to go with so many ideas and initiatives planned, including 'balance bike' session for the children and 'toilet training' advice for parents. She has also planned a 'first aid' training session for parents. As well as term time childcare, Sunbeams are offering Holiday club care during the summer. Please contact Corey directly on sunbeams171@outlook.cpm if you have any questions or wish to visit.

Our Summer Fair will take place on Wednesday 2nd July from 3pm – come along and join in the fun!

NEW PILATES CLASS

From May, Melody Dean is holding a Pilates & Meditation class on Tuesdays at 6.30pm in the Village Centre.

Announcing the new class, Melody explained that she has been teaching Pilates for over a decade.

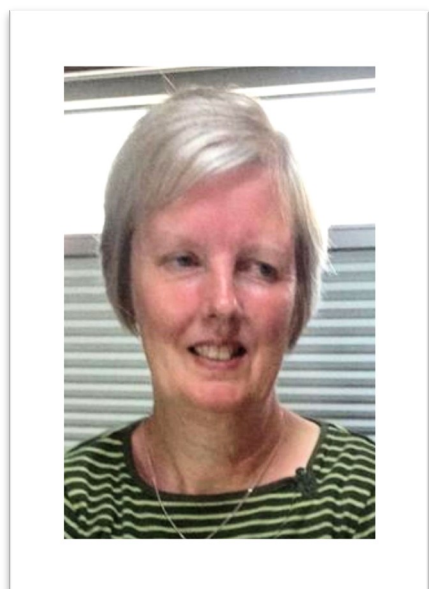
"I became totally inspired with how well my husband responded to the method after a serious spinal injury and subsequent surgery," she said. "Since my first course, I have become completely enchanted with how movement changes lives and continue my understanding with ongoing study. My mission is to help people find their strength of body and mind with movement."

Participants can expect cracking music and a good giggle, as well as to be challenged by what appear to be the simplest of movements.

Pilates builds strength in some of those muscles you didn't know you needed.

The cost is £12 per session and anyone interested can contact Melody on 07951 145117 or via her website: melodydean.com.

Melody is trained in Tai Chi, Aerial Hoop and Silks Fitness, Pilates Equipment and surgical and injury rehabilitation. She operates a private clinic from Grosvenor Street Physiotherapy in Mold.



JOAN BENDALL

Jim Bendall and family would like to thank all their neighbours and friends for the cards, good wishes and support after the loss of their beloved Joan.



VILLAGE HALL FUND - CORRECTION

A misunderstanding and the absence of key personalities for fact-checking duty meant that an error crept into the April issue of this newsletter.

The amount of money held by Gwernymynydd Village Centre under the Village Hall Fund is not some £1740 as was stated, but is closer to £14,500. Apologies for the confusion.



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This newsletter is published every other month. The deadline for the August issue is 11 July.

WANT TO EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS?

Reading is a great way to learn about the world
and those we share it with.

Gwernymynydd Book Club meets in the Swan Inn
at 7.30pm on the first Wednesday of each month.

We chat about books we've read and how much
we've enjoyed them - or not! Just turn up or, for
more details, phone Sue Elsley on 01352 750489.



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"Do you know the secret to a great retirement?"

Retirement isn't what it used to be, and that's a good thing. These days, it's less about slowing down and more about having the freedom to do what you've always dreamed of, whether that's travelling, taking up a new hobby, or simply enjoying more time with family. But here's the thing: to really make the most of those years, you need a solid plan in place.

As a financial planner, I've seen how the right advice can turn "one day" dreams into real, achievable goals. Many of my clients are surprised to find they can afford to retire earlier than expected – and live comfortably. The key is to start by thinking about the life you want, and then building a financial plan around it. It's not just about pensions, it's about flexibility, confidence, and knowing you're making the most of what you've worked so hard for.

It's never too late to start planning for the retirement that you want, if you would like to discuss how to reach your retirement goals, please feel free to contact me on adam.tilston@sjpp.co.uk or say hello if you spot me around the village!"

-Adam

The value of an investment with St. James's Place will be directly linked to the performance of the funds you select, and the value can therefore go down as well as up. You may get back less than you invested.



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SJP Approved 30/04/2025

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Printed by Fairway Design to Print LLP,

Units 23-25 Manor Industrial Estate, Bagillt Road, Flint, CH6 5UY.

Many thanks to John Fenwick and his team for all their help.