

Coed-y-Paen News

December 2014

Diary of Events:

24 December 6.30pm – Carol Service in Christchurch after which many adjourn to The Carpenter's Arms.

31 December – New Year's Eve in The Carpenter's Arms. Eat from Matt's normal menu with a £5 surcharge for a glass of bubbly at midnight (and towards the staff). Have your own table or join a larger village group. Orders by 8.30pm.

15 January 8pm - **Local History Talk** (postponed from November)
Well-known local historian Goff Brangham will give a talk entitled "A tale of two villages - Pontnewydd and Cwmbran". His previous talks have been a great success and all local residents and friends are welcome. The venue is upstairs in the Carpenters Arms.

24 February 8pm – Resident's Association AGM and presentation/discussion of the Community Led Plan. A finger buffet will be provided. Where? The Carps of course!

Residents Association News

Village Christmas Dinner

The annual village Christmas Dinner in The Carps on 17 December was enjoyed by some 40 residents and it was great to see new faces. Matt's team presented a splendid meal (as usual) and were brought from the kitchen by CyPRA Chairman Chris Hughes to be thanked, not only for the evening but for their service throughout the year.

Committee needs new blood

Following retirements from the committee reported in the last Newsletter comes the resignation of Chris Hughes as Chairman. Chris has already moved west and will shortly move into his new home in Llanelli. He will be sorely missed in the village. The committee desperately needs new members, especially those with youthful enthusiasm, to

take forward its work ... in whatever direction residents require. It can make representations to Mon CC or other service providers on behalf of the village, as well as organise social events and generally look after the village environment. Speak to John Hargreaves or Hilary Jones, or email info@coedypaen.net for more information.

Village Website

Dave Walsh has taken over from Lionel Demery as 'webmaster' (if this is the right word). He has suggested we upgrade to a newer Content Management system which will be more secure and can offer a 'fresher' look. I will look after content but if you have suggestions for new pages or changes to the current ones I would be delighted to hear from you. Email info@coedypaen.net

Speeding Vehicles

This is a reminder of what to do if you see a vehicle travelling too fast for the conditions in the lanes, or exceeding the speed limit in the village: note the registration number, place and date/time plus any other identifying info) and email the details to Hilary Jones hilary536@btinternet.com who will compile a list for discussion with the local police.

Sue Rogers/John Hargreaves

Church News

The Village Carol Service will be held on **Christmas Eve** as usual, at **6 30pm**. This is always a good start to the Christmas celebrations so please bring all the family and fill the church!

Christmas Day Holy Eucharist will be at the changed time of **9.30am** and will be presided over by the Rev'd Kevin Haslar who is the Vicar designate for the Usk Ministry Area. The normal pattern of services continues in the New Year:

1st Sunday - Holy Eucharist at 9.00am
3rd Sunday - Evensong at 6 30pm

As a result of the Harvest Festival and Supper, a £100 cheque and a large number of tins and dried goods were sent to Raven House. £200 was sent to Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research. Sincere thanks to all who contributed to this.

November saw the passing of Roger Mathews and Tony Howard, both faithful members of Christchurch. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families at this sad time.

We are sorry to lose Chris Hughes, our Vicar's Warden, who is moving to Llanelli and thank him for all his hard work in Christchurch. Ian Scarborough will be "holding the fort" until the Easter Vestry.
Jean Scarborough

Llangybi Community Council News

Defibrillator Update

The defibrillator for Llangybi has been received and is ready for installation in its housing outside Llangybi Village Hall. Two training sessions in the use of the defibrillator and in giving basic CPR have been held, attended by nearly 30 volunteers. Our application for further defibrillators from the British Heart Foundation for Coed-y-Paen and Llandegfedd has been approved. The CyP machine will eventually be installed on or near the church, and we will arrange further training sessions for volunteers.

Notice Board

Hopefully you will have seen that we have acquired a new Community notice board adjacent the bus shelter in the village. We are grateful for the financial assistance from Monmouthshire County Council (MonCC) which made this possible.

Community Led Plan

The final draft of the Plan has been sent to Shirley Hughes of adventa and is, or shortly will be, with the printers. Copies will be distributed to every household in and around the village, and we hope to give a presentation on the plan at the Residents' Association AGM in February. Sadly, as part of the financial cuts being made by MonCC, Shirley has been made redundant. However,

she maintains that she still intends to involve herself in local matters.

Appeal on The Mount Planning Application

Having been refused planning permission by MonCC to erect a dwelling on the site adjacent The Mount, the applicant has appealed to the Welsh Assembly Planning Inspectorate. The appeal will be heard on 13 Jan 2015 at County Hall in Usk. The community council will attend to make observations.

Grants

I am pleased to say that the Community Council has been able to maintain the same level of grants to the Residents' Association and to Christchurch as in previous years.

Budget Cuts

MonCC is having to make further cuts to its budget because of reduced grants to all local authorities from the Welsh Assembly. The consequence is going to be cut-backs and changes in services, and you can find out more by going along to one of MonCC's information sessions. There will be one in Usk at midday on 12 Jan 2015. The venue will probably be a mobile van in the car park.

Graham Rogers

Llanbadoc Community Council News

You can keep uptodate at

<http://www.llanbadoc.org/>. Of particular interest is the 'Walks' page. Hilary says that Walk 6, Cefn Ila, will be published very shortly and Walk 7, the Reservoir Trail, will be published in time for the opening of the visitor centre (1 April).

LPG Group Buying

If you use gas and are not part of the Flogas group buying scheme you may wish to contact Alan Rees for information. Negotiations for a new contract will start in April.

Next newsletter

If you have any items for the next Newsletter, please send them to the editor, Sue Rogers, at suerogers454@btinternet.com or call on 672170.