



ABERHAFESP COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2019 Edition

Celebrating
40 *Years*

Sunday 21st JULY

Anniversary lunch to celebrate the opening of the Community Centre.

12.30 for 1pm

With a two-course lunch and reminiscences by guest speakers

Bar and raffle

Tickets £15 each

Opening of Community Centre in July 1979

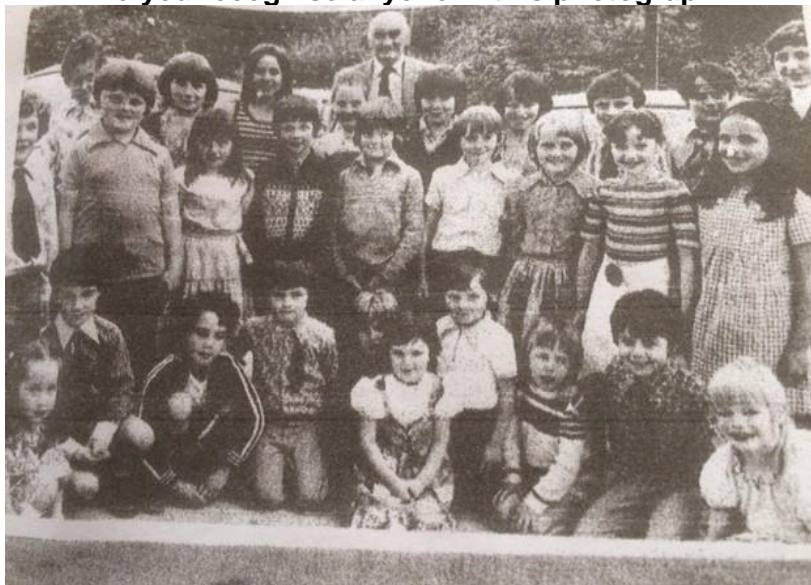
In July 1979 the new Community Centre was opened at Aberhafesp by the former headmaster of Aberhafesp School. Previously local organisations had to use a small hall with few facilities but the new centre which was to be used during the day by the schoolchildren was well equipped and even had a mobile stage.

Over 200 people were present to see Mr. Jones open the building and the Rev. Susan Roberts led them in a prayer of dedication. The warden Mr. Hughes welcomed the guests and local residents to the Centre. Mr. Jones expressed his joy at being asked to perform the ceremony as he was headmaster when the idea was first suggested. His wife was presented with a bouquet by Miss Melonie Pryce.

Also present was Mr. R. Bevan, Director of Education for Powys, who were responsible for the building of the Centre.

Items of entertainment followed from the schoolchildren, Rhydfelen and Mr. Cyril Richards. The pianist was Mrs. A. Evans. The chairman for the evening was Mr. Michael Jones. The Rev. Day of Mochdre gave the closing prayers.

Do you recognise anyone in this photograph?





Saturday evening in August

In 2018 the Community Association and the Young Farmers held a joint BBQ event
We are planning on holding another joint event this year

Details to be confirmed.

COMMUNITY CENTRE NEWS

We have had a busy Spring in the Hall. Our Friday night sports evenings are doing very well, with table tennis, kurling and now darts – the board has been put up with a special light above it. We also had a very successful sports night, organised by Corris and Trevor Owen on the 10th April. Various teams competed in all the above sports, plus indoor bowls and a pub game like shove ha’penny, but with larger pieces. Teams came from the Hall committee, Young Farmers, Short Mat Bowls, Women’s Institute, St. Gwynog’s Church, and Rhydfelin Chapel. It was won by Rhydfelin Chapel.

The Italian evening at the end of April went with a swing, with about eighty people enjoying various pasta dishes, plus “Italian cottage pie”, followed by delicious puddings including Tiramisu and tasty “Italian rhubarb crumble”! The quiz went down well too, with an unusual picture section, representing book titles, compiled by Richard Bresnan.

Shortly afterwards, on May 11th we had a well attended and successful coffee morning in aid of Hall funds, with some interesting stalls. The wonderful smell of our Bargain Bacon Baps seemed to draw people in, with extra tables and chairs having to be put up, and lots of people staying for a chat. The new toaster was put through its paces: the old one went on strike at the last coffee morning. Thanks to all for your support.

We have recently had the guttering fascia and parts of the roof joists replaced over the kitchen. Now when it rains, the water is going away properly, without causing a lot of noise in the kitchen, and damp going into the fabric of the building.

We recently had the “Bristol cyclists” for a weekend, for their annual “up and down Wales” trip. They spend the night crashed out on the Hall floor, having had a take-away supper; they cook breakfast the next morning, and are then on their way. They really love Aberhafesp, and it is always a pleasure to have them. (See item on Page 5)

On Sunday June 9th we hosted the annual Montgomeryshire W.I. walk, with members from other W.I.s meeting here for a short walk, led by Edward and Heather Parry and a longer walk led by Alan and Joyce Owen. Our W.I. served a jolly good tea afterwards. The walkers loved the scenery above Aberhafesp, saw a curlew on the window and heard a cuckoo. There was only one burst of rain, when one walker pulled out what she thought was a cagoule and found she had packed trousers by mistake, it is not reported where she wore them! They were lucky though, as since the walk, three days later, I recorded 4.5 inches of rain in our garden!

We now look forward to our 40th anniversary celebration on June 21st with a two course lunch and reminiscences from guest speakers. It should be a most enjoyable day. Maddy Thornton.

YOUNG FARMERS

We have had a busy time. In May we had the County Rally in Llanfyllin. We competed in various different events. The girls’ dance group came first and are now going onto the Royal Welsh Show. The boys came second in the tug of war. We enjoyed a fun evening making chocolate with Coco Live from Caersws. We will be holding lots of events over the summer. The Community Centre and Young Farmers are hoping to organise a joint BBQ, as last year, on a Saturday evening in August.

For more details about Young Farmers contact: Laura Gethin 07342984900

HORSES IN BWLCH-Y-FFRIDD

A hundred years ago Graham and Christine Green's house, Cartref, Bwlch-y-Ffridd was the smithy where horses were brought to be shod. There are horses at Cartref again today, smaller and more docile than the blacksmith's customers, because Graham makes rocking horses. From muzzle to fetlock they are perfectly carved in wood; their tack – bridle, saddle – are of leather and the mane and tail are real horse hair.

The result, as the photograph shows is a work of great skill and craftsmanship. This one has found a new home in North Yorkshire – the home of Pippa Edith the first grandchild of Edward and Heather Parry of Yr Efail, Aberhafesp



Philip Curnow Photography



Specialists in Commercial, Advertising, PR, Promotional, Sports and Event Photography. Full Nationwide Coverage.

Bryn y Groes, Aberhafesp, Newtown, SY16 3JQ

01686 688235

07734312180

www.philipcurnow.co.uk

200 CLUB WINNERS SPRING 2019

£50	Mr & Mrs Breeze	Brynawel
£25	Bill Cowan	Old School House
£25	Mr & Mrs Mike Jones	Aberhafesp
£25	Sue Walker	Tregynon
£25	Sue Davey	Bwlch-y-Ffridd
£25	Mr & Mrs Green	Bwlch-y-Ffridd
£15	Aled Jones	Llanwynog
£15	Mrs H Parry	Aberhafesp
£15	Dona Richards	Newtown

UNIQUE WELSH STAYS



A collection of luxury properties for parties of all sizes

Book your next break at
www.UniqueWelshStays.co.uk

**Are you elderly, disabled
(young or old) or just have
mobility problems?**

Then you need

DIAL-A-RIDE

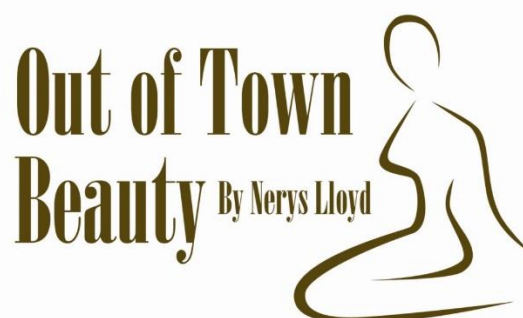
Old Brew House,
Ladywell Centre,
Newtown, Powys
SY16 1AF

Charity No. 1005861

**To find out more information
either call in or ring Carole on
01686622566**

A salon/spa with tranquil surroundings

Ideal for a relaxing or well needed massage



Tel: 01686 610273 or 07813 151871

Email: info@outoftownbeauty.co.uk **Website:** www.outoftownbeauty.co.uk

Just 1.5 miles up the Bryn Lane (past the hospital), Newtown.

All your treatments carried out by friendly therapists, time given to **YOU**, no matter what your treatment

Dermalogica Facials

Massage

Spray tanning

Waxing

Ladies evenings

And more.....

Pedicures

Manicures

Lash extensions

Spa packages

Group bookings (can include buffet and a glass of wine)

Vouchers also available (perfect present)



Dave Smith (Newtown) Ltd. (HAS)

Groundworks & Civil Engineering Contractors
Registered Contractors to Local Authorities

For all your:
Slabbing, Paths and Patios, Concreting, Tarmac,
Drainage, Water Connections, Kerbing and Wooden
Fencing Requirements



TEL 01686 688001
MOBILE 07836 694640
FAX 01686 688084

Email: dave_smith_ltd@live.co.uk



VICKERS Tree Surgery

& Arboricultural Services

01686 650514

THE BRYAN CHAPMAN MEMORIAL 600k Welsh End-to End Cycle event

This annual event took place on the weekend of 18th and 19th May 2019. It was the 35th event which covers 600km (375 miles) from the Severn Bridge up to the Menai Bridge and back again in one weekend.

The format of the event is that there are controlled stops where riders get a stamp as proof of passage, and at the end, each ride is recorded by the chap who founded the Tour de France back in 1903. In fact, these long-distance cycle events pre-date the Tour de France with the 800 mile Paris-Brest-Paris race first being organised in 1891 and still in the calendar.

The event is very popular so always over subscribed so we were at our maximum of 225 entries. Despite a benign weather forecast, a combination of illness, injury and idleness meant that we were down to 154 on the start line.

We always get a good mix of ages so the field ranged from riders in their 20's through to riders in their 70's. Long distance cycling is one sport where experience counts for a lot and our more mature riders can usually see off the youngsters. Cycling is great for mixing up the generations and is also still a sport where you can ride alongside the stars – this year we had a multiple British national champion but in the past we have had a number of “celebrities” including a former women’s national cyclo-cross champion, a World Masters road race champion and a rider who was placed 7th in the women’s Tour de France.

The event is ranked in the list of the World’s 100 best rides. This is partly down to the Welsh roads and scenery, but we also think it is because of the reception the riders get along the way. We try to use local independent facilities as café owners tell us that the boost to takings from 150 hungry riders is significant and that they often see riders again when they return to the area bringing their families on holiday after having been introduced to Wales by the event.

This local support is why we really appreciate being able to use venues such as the Community Centre in Aberhafesp. Where we can, we will direct riders to cafés and restaurants but when they are riding through the night, we organise the stops ourselves so people can get food and drink but also some sleep if they need it. We therefore use a YHA hostel in Dolgellau and a Scout hall in Menai as well as Aberhafesp so riders have round the clock support.

Our event has been using the **Community Centre in Aberhafesp** for around 10 years though it has also been used as a venue for other cycle events. It is a great location for us with really good kitchen facilities, plenty of space outside to park bikes and far enough away from houses that local residents are not disturbed (we hope!). I hope Mr. Parry has booked us in for 2020. *Ritchie Tout.*

LOCAL HISTORY

A Cottagers Life in Aberhafesp Pre 2nd World War 1939-1945 by Mike Jones

It is difficult in this day and age to understand what life was like pre-war for a cottager to live in the countryside in Aberhafesp. Wages, if you could find a job, would have been £2 or less, and it was up to the family to live as best they could. But it was not all bad, some work was available, either working for the Gregynog estate, or for the much smaller Aberhafesp Hall estate, perhaps as a groom or gardener, and for young women as maids in either of these establishments or on the larger farms. There was some employment for men and boys on these farms, as wagoner, cowman or "gwas bach", welsh for a young entrant to farm work. A few tradesmen were needed in the parish, as shoemaker, clog maker or tailor.

Cottages were usually found in pairs, with sizable back gardens, together with a pig sty and garden sheds, a couple of apple trees, gooseberry and currant bushes. The house itself was not very big, the front room would have a fireplace with a boiler and oven either side of the fire, a table and chairs, a sideboard or just a cupboard to hold family "valuables". The small back room had just a sink, water to be carried in from a well, a cupboard to hold food and china utensils hung up on the wall, plus shelves to hold preserves and cooked tarts and cakes. Apples would be stored upstairs under the beds in the two small bedrooms. There never was a bathroom, the privy at the bottom of the garden sufficed. A large tin bath hung on the outside back wall.

The back garden itself was a wonderful sight to behold in midsummer, growing every vegetable that would be needed to sustain a family throughout the year, a cart load of farmyard manure would be obtained from a local farm in return for assistance with the hay and corn harvests during the long summer evenings. Likewise, the cottager would be allowed to grow some potatoes on the farm. It must be stated that the soil in the garden was very fertile after years of liberal fertilization. Seeds would be saved from year to year and perhaps exchanged with other workers at their place of work.

I have heard tales of enterprising cottagers catching rabbits with a snare to stop them trying to steal a meal from some juicy cabbages by finding a suitable hole in the well-kept surrounding hedge. One character I knew quite well was also a very good fisherman. The table in that cottage always had good food served on it.

There was no real hierarchy in our countryside, except the owners of the two estates. In the chapels the cottager was an equal in the congregation to any other. He could pray, recite or sing on a par with others. There was an acknowledged respect for people's ability in Aberhafesp.

The wife was able to go to Newtown on market days in Frank Pryce's stock lorry, washed down for a second journey with bench seats placed down each side. The shopping list was quite basic, a little sugar, flour, vinegar, salt, tea, lard, custard powder, margarine, tobacco or twist to keep the master of the house happy, oh – and matches. Perhaps a visit to the hardware shop to get some saucepan repair rings or a new wick for an oil lamp or lantern.

Clothes pegs for the garden line would be whittled in an evening by the fire, and if the cottager had a woodworking skill, he would make toys for his own children and undertake a commission for farming family's children. I awoke one Christmas morning to find a quarter size wheelbarrow that Father Christmas had delivered. Years later I was told it had been made by one such cottager. It made me so proud that I could join in and do farm tasks with the cowman in the farmyard.

There was not an idle moment in the cottager's life, no television to watch or telephone to talk on.

Repairing shoes and clothes took up the evenings, or perhaps playing whist with his family.

My memories of those times are of pleasant acquaintances and a love of chatting and listening to tales of country ways and beliefs and their undoubted love of the broad countryside and an appreciation of nature on which they so depended.

CAERSWS FISH BAR

Friendly, Family owned and Local

We are open:

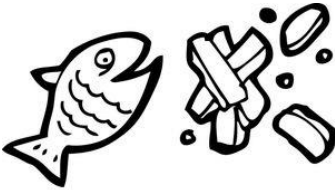
Mondays 4:30 - 8:00

Tuesdays - Saturdays

12:0 - 2:00 4:30 - 8:00

Our hours are extended for Spring/Summer

We look forward to welcoming old and new customers.



© Can Stock Photo



HAMERBUILD

Nigel Hamer

General Builder

Home Maintenance

Bwlch-y-Ffridd

Supporting the Aberhafesp

Community newsletter

Abso-Crafting-Lutely

Furniture Painting and Craft Workshops

PontRobert - £50 for the day

(10am-5pm)

Bring your own furniture along to paint

Shabby chic, varnish, wax, chalk paint, Restoration

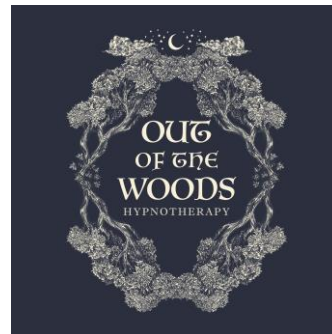
Learn a range of techniques from a professional upcycler

For more info or to book a place:

www.craftcourses.com/courses/furniture-painting-workshop-near-welshpool-powys

Call 07704911765

or Email: abso-crafting-lutely@outlook.com



Looking for PAIN RELIEF?
STRUGGLING in your RELATIONSHIPS?
Compulsive behaviour or ADDICTIONS?
ANXIETY, DEPRESSION or LOW CONFIDENCE?
CHILDREN struggling with EXAMS or NIGHT TERRORS? PHOBIAS or IBS?

HYPNOTHERAPY COULD HELP

Kara Newsome DAH HPD MNCH

www.hypnotherapists.org.uk/therapist-finder/view/plid/7010/

Out-of-the-woods-hypnotherapy@outlook.com

07842287965

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



We began our Spring Programme with a very interesting talk from Fiona Lewis who lives in Kerry. This lady has a passion for recycling and showed us what amazing things can be made from old woollen blankets and other woollen garments. She has set up her own business called Tufti Stuff and hopes to have a stall at the Community Centre Christmas coffee morning – a chance to see what her home grown company produces.

In May, a young lady called Bethan bounded into the Hall, wasting no time in getting us up from our chairs and into lines. No excuses, we all had to take part in her “Funky Folk” dance session. After our attempts at the Irish dance I don’t think we will be auditioning for River Dance just yet but we had a great evening with requests from some members – can she come back soon?

In June we were joined by husbands and friends for a trip to North Wales to visit the Glassblobbery Studio and gallery near Corwen. We watched how each piece of glass is lovingly created in the spirit of an age old tradition, learnt from the craftsmen of Venice. After lunch at the Rhug Organic Farm we visited Caerau Garden which is over 1000 feet above sea level and is the highest private garden open to the public in North Wales. After a leisurely walk around the garden, taking in the spectacular views, we enjoyed an excellent meal prepared by our hosts. Our return journey took us along the shores of Bala Lake on a beautiful sunny evening, a lovely end to a very enjoyable day.

We entered a team in the Sports Evening held at the Community Centre in April and two teams entered the W.I. County Darts Doubles competition. Now we are looking forward to the Outdoor Bowls.

On Sunday 9th June we played host to W.I. members from all over the county for the Annual Federation Walk. We organised two walks: a gentle walk of three miles and a second, longer walk of around four miles, beginning and ending at the Community Centre – a great way to show what beautiful countryside we have around Aberhafesp. Our members provided “Afternoon Tea” for the tired and thirsty walkers on their return to the Centre.

This is what we have planned for the rest of the year. We meet on the first Thursday of the month at 7pm in the Community Centre. Elaine Benbow Tel: 01686 625586

July 4 th	Talk on Type 1 & 2 diabetes (how to recognise the symptoms)
August	No meeting
September 5 th	Visit to Leighton Stud
October 3 rd	Illustrated talk “Wildflower Meadows”
November 7 th	AGM + Crackpots – paint your own Pottery
December 5 th	Feel Good and Look Good

RHYDFELIN CHAPEL

Since our last publication our Community Association held a Sports Evening and Rhydfelin Chapel are the very proud winners of the Sports Shield for 2019.

On Sunday the 16th June 2019 a very successful and well attended Anniversary and Songs of Praise was held. Our President for the morning Service was Mrs Freda Jones of Trefeglwys.

The morning Service was taken by our young people under the leadership of Janet Jones, and those taking part were: Elin Jones, Maisie Jones, Ffion Owen, Freya Owen and Charolotte Gerrard.

The evening Songs of Praise was conducted and organised by Gwynfryn Evans and the organist was Gwyneth Jones. Gwynfryn and Gwyneth had chosen a number of well known hymns that we all enjoyed singing.

Our Services are held at 2.30pm and a very warm welcome is extended to all.

ST. GWYNOG'S CHURCH

Services: These will take place on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at 9.30am. We will be welcoming another member of the clergy to our area in the near future. Also, on a Wednesday morning we hold a short service at 10.30am, in the church room. On the 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesdays it is a Morning Prayer and on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday it is Holy Communion. Everyone is welcome. We are currently waiting to hear from the architect when the repairs to the floor in the church and vestry will commence, but we hope it will be in the early Autumn.

Talk about St. Gwynog's: A big thank you to Edward Parry for his most interesting and informative illustrated talk on Monday 10th June about the church and the surrounding areas together with the amazing facts he had found out about the history and why the church was there.

By the time you read this we will have had another informative talk on Monday 1st July, given by Horace and Bethan about the school they started in the village in Uganda where Horace was brought up. Theirs is an amazing story of how from a small acorn of hope and faith a large tree has grown. The impact that has made in that village has been huge. We hope that some of you will have been able to come and hear their story.

Thank you: Our thanks to all who support us with the grass cutting in the churchyard, it is very much appreciated.

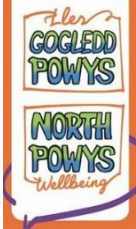
Coffee Morning: Our coffee mornings on the first Saturday of each month continue to be popular and again our thanks to you all in the community for your support. Since we started them 3 years ago, we have sent to local charities and the overseas school in Uganda a total of £1,800.

See our **Facebook Page** for more information.

<p>SP Waste Disposal</p> <p>Domestic septic tank emptying Drain unblocking High pressure jetting/washer 2000 gallon tanker hire Septic tank installation and maintenance All areas covered</p> <p>Call for no obligation quote or advice 01686 688425 or Mobile 0702846487</p>	<p>Good Quality Top Soil for sale Collected or delivered Phone</p> <p>Steve Pryce</p> <p>01686 688425 Or Mobile 07802846487</p>
--	--

ABERHAFESP COMMUNITY CONTACTS		
Newsletter Editor:	Marilyn Bedworth mbedworth@gmail.com	01686 689977
Community Centre: Chair	Maddy Thornton christhornton85@btinternet.com	01686 623310
Community Centre: Treasurer:	Edward Parry edwardgparry@live.co.uk	01686 688346
Community Centre: Secretary	Joan Michel Joanvera.michel@gmail.com	01686 688550
Community Centre: Hall Bookings	Elaine Benbow Elainbenbow@hotmail.com	01686 625586
Community Council Chair	Nigel Hamer nigelhamer68@hotmail.com	01686 650702
Young Farmers	Laura Gethin	07342984900
Aberhafesp Community Council website	www.community-council.org.uk/aberhafespcommunitycouncil	
This newsletter can be accessed from both the website and our Facebook page		

THE FUTURE OF HEALTH AND WELLBEING SERVICES IN NORTH POWYS



We will be at Newtown Library, Park Lane, on Thursday 30th July 2pm-7pm to listen to your views and have a conversation about “what matters most” to you and your community”.

To **HAVE YOUR SAY** regarding your present and future healthcare you need to go along to this meeting. What is planned is going to cost £20million plus (where is that money going to come from?)

ABERHAFESP/B ROAD SIGNS

Comments from Councillor Heulwen Hume:

The authority is not looking to replace all the existing signs at considerable unnecessary expense to the public purse, they are simply trying to reach a decision as to whether any signs that are in need of replacement should indicate the Welsh version of the village name “Aberhafesb” as per the approved Council policy or the anglicised version of the village name “Aberhafesp”.

Many of the more recently replaced signs in and on the approaches to the village already display the Welsh version “Aberhafesb”; albeit that some have been vandalised by persons who do not agree with that decision. Such vandalism is of course criminal damage, and will be dealt with accordingly by the Council and the police if the identity of those persons becomes known.

Where the Welsh version of the name and the English/anglicised version of the name only differs by one letter, our approved policy is that only the Welsh version should be used on road signs. The Council has received criticism recently for not adhering to this policy by Welsh language groups.

Tony Caine the Traffic and Travel Manager at Powys County Council has written:

"There are no current plans to replace the vandalised signs however should their condition deteriorate then our position will be reviewed”.

NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of this newsletter will be published in October 2019. Please send any articles of interest and your email addresses to the Editor (mbedworth@gmail.com) no later than the **20th September**.