

MERTHYR CYNOG COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER – November 2013

(Funded by Merthyr Cynog Community Council)

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*****Community Website – www.merthycynog.org*****

The new-look Merthyr Cynog Community Website has been available since November!

It now looks really good, especially the photographs, and it navigates brilliantly.
If there are comments, *items for inclusion*, omissions, *mistakes*, plaudits or *grumbles*,
please direct them to **Verity** on **690189**, or **Josie** on **690277**.

Diary Dates For Your Diary!

Saturday 22nd February 2104

The Annual Community Quiz

7pm sharp

This is a perennial **favourite** for the whole family with a **brain**, or **half** a brain. Or if you are on your **own** you will be **donated** to a team that **might** need you!

Its **never** too **serious**, (though one or **two get particular**, on occasions), adding to the **fun**.

Nominal charge **ONLY £1.00** per person.
There's a raffle too.

Quizmaster supreme **Christopher Davies** links *technology* with a sense of *devilment* in his questions, which are both **traditional** and **excruciatingly tricky**. And *amusing*. Unless you get **stuck**. Then its *annoying*!!

Come along and be either **triumphant** or **annoyed**, and have **fun** as well. There are **light** refreshments, but bring your **own** liquid – aka **booze**.

Friday 28th February 2014

Badminton Taster Session

7pm sharp!

It is **hoped** that this **great** game can **resume** in the Hall, and to this end there's a **taster session** organised for **all** abilities.

You need **not** be an international **player**, or **even** moderately **good**, as there's to be **expert coaching** there, on **tap!**
All necessary equipment will be provided.

There's a **nominal charge** of **£2 per head**.

This is **charged** to cover **heat**, *light*, the **all-important cup of tea**, and the *toilets*.

If this session goes **well**, and people **both support** it and **enjoy** it, then it is hoped that it can become a **regular occurrence** in the Community Hall.

Saturday 15th March 2014

John Gibbon Music Evening 7.30 pm

He's bringing his **unique** blend of **jazz**, **trad**, & **humour** to *entertain* us, with **Guest Artist Graham Pike**.

For **only £6**, there's **music**, *soup* and *rolls* too.

****Tuesday 18th February 2014****

AGM of Management Committee 7.30pm

If you've any **ideas** for **future events**, or if you feel you can **make a contribution**, please *come along*, or speak to a member. We **welcome** offers of **help**. Contact **Lynne** 690269.

Merthyr Cynog & District Women's Institute

We're well into the 2014 programme, and here's what's on for the next few months:

March 4th – Robert Eckley – Past and Present Photos of Brecon & area

A unique collection with modern photos taken in the same location as the older ones. Fascinating.

April 1st – Rev Michael Hodgson – First World War Poems & Songs

Acknowledging the Centenary Year, a collection from that era being shared by Michael.

May 6th – Margaret Summers – Old Brecon, the Shops, Inns and Chapels of bygone times.

Meeting in Brecon as a follow-up to Robert's photos, with cream tea with the Secretary.
Community Hall 7.15, and all are welcome, especially NEW members, or on a "try it and see" basis.
Contact Annette on 622892

A thought for others less fortunate... ..

With this, the latest edition of the Community Newsletter, we, the Production Team responsible wish to commiserate with everyone so far as the weather is concerned. The past few years have been unpredictably awful, more so for anyone involved in trying to earn a living in farming.

However – it seems that this winter is set to undo all the others put together. Not perhaps the coldest of years, but the incessant wet has quite literally put a dampener on everything since October. Possibly the only little bit of light for us has been that we have not had it half as bad as others in different locations. We wish them well, and hope that it is soon over.

The Community Hall

Over the Christmas and New Year season, the Hall was in constant use, with the Christmas Party, the Snow Queen performance, the Poultry Whist drive all taking place, and all extremely well supported, for which the committee is most grateful. And given that the Whist Drive was held on the frostiest night of the winter, this was doubly satisfying.

You may have noticed that the front of the Hall has had some much-needed improvement and refurbishment carried out as well as one or two other works done.

The lighting on the front steps in the dark now seems to be much improved.

The next task will be to tackle the leaks in the roof which this weather has shown to be needing to be done. This will be sorted if and when we get a dry spell.

For your information, the costs of running our Community Hall alone come to round about £100 per week, or over £5000 per year. Our Hire Charges are kept as low as we possibly can for people, and our senior citizens and our young people are able to use it for nothing. Often during recent months it has been heard being said that we are very fortunate in having such a good community resource, and we really should be grateful for it.

You can see from the other page just how much goes on in the hall, and our wonderful YFC uses it for all their rehearsals leading up to their competitions.

YFC – a Cause for Celebration

Closer to home we must celebrate the achievements of our Community Young Farmer's Club – Pontfaen.. Not content with picking up competition places and trophies throughout last year, the Club has JUST finished mounting not one, but two, separate entries in the recent YFC Drama Festival, along with two One Plus entries – more than some larger clubs!

The results were tremendous. The One Plus entries were places second and fourth in the Junior under 16 category, and in the Entertainments, the Club is poised to perform their entry one more time having reached the Final – of two – before learning if they have been successful in winning, and representing Brecknockshire in the next stage. The Gala Night was postponed because of power cuts in the County, and is rescheduled for Wednesday 19th February. Not only did they reach the Final, they also scooped nominations for Best Actress and Best Actor.

Pontfaen YFC will be performing both their entries and both their One Plus entries in the Hall on a date to be revealed either through the website, or FaceBook page, or perhaps by old-fashioned word of mouth. All four entries are completely different to each other, so this evening of homespun entertainment will be a cracker, and NOT to be missed. You will have an opportunity to witness the abilities of the performers, the inventiveness of their producers and the sheer fun and enjoyment that this Club has in pulling together, creating something well nigh magical.

Bring your family and your friends – you won't be disappointed.

Let's hope the result of the postponed Gala Night will be what we want to hear. GO PONTFAEN!!