

# Merry Christmas

## Cloch Maelor

Coedpoeth & Minera

David Drmaghy  
Winter 2019

### Council updates:

The Penygelli field project, now referred to as 'The Big Field' is progressing nicely. The team of consultants have been working hard over the past couple of months, liaising with our Community Council and WCBC, preparing reports, site visits and carrying out public consultations. They have attended several local community events recently, handing out leaflets canvassing the views of our residents, an exercise which will be continued over the coming months.

A member of the consultancy team Marc, will be working out of the front office at the Parish Hall (where Seddons were previously located) on Fridays, starting in the new year and he would welcome views and opinions from residents on the development of the project.

Your opinions matter as the project moves forward.

### Parish Hall:

Your Community Council is working tirelessly regarding promoting the usage of the Hall, in an attempt to recruit more groups to hold events in the Heart of our Village. To make more use of the village facilities and to generate income, which then can be invested in the village and village groups.

From January 2020 the Hall will be available to such things as, indoor 'boot' sales, art & craft workshops, play groups and plant & flower sales to name just a few. If you are a stall holder, or you know a stall holder who may be interested I'm attending an even, or setting up any such events please contact the caretaker at the Parish Hall for availability. Contact telephone number 01978 755998.

We are anticipating accommodating around 40 stalls in the Hall itself and during the nicer weather, we will be able to utilise the outdoor tennis court in the Memorial Park.

## Village Christmas Lights:

You will be aware that we placed Christmas lights at the entry and exit to our village, along the high street. Furthermore, thanks to the hard work of Councillor Ben Brown, decorated and illuminated hanging baskets have been sited between the aforementioned locations.

Councillor Brown has worked tirelessly over recent months in acquiring the materials and constructing the baskets himself and I am aware the Community Council have thanked him for his time and effort. If you have any comments to make regarding the light display please contact either the Council Clerk tel: 01978 756890 or the caretaker Tel: 01978 755998. If you have any suggestions on how next years display may be improved, please do not hesitate to contact either of the above.

## Village Christmas Parade:

This years Christmas Lantern Parade due to unforeseen circumstances was held on Saturday 7 December commencing at the Old Carnegie Library and held separately from the Plas Pentwyn Christmas Fair.

The parade was very well attended with the understanding that 200 parents and children attended the event. Children had the opportunity to meet Santa and Mrs Claus, inside the very tastefully decorated Old Carnegie Library, prior to attending the carol service at St Tudfils. The weather proved to be a challenge on the day, thankfully no rain, but it was bitterly cold with a very strong wind. The parade went very well and everyone enjoyed singing carols. The conclusion to the event was the tree lighting ceremony. Sheila Edwards, our 'villager of the Year' had the honour of pushing the 'big button' A huge thank you to the stewards attending and supervising the event.

## Plas Pentwyn:

Information received reveals that the Christmas Fair at the centre was well attended and supported. Well done to all connected with the event and to those who supported it.

## New Co-Op building:

As you may be aware the re-built Co-Op building will not be opening until the new year, I understand the revised date for the grand re-opening is now January 17 2020.

## Scam Alerts:

It seems sad to have to mention being vigilant, especially at this time of year, but the usual scams are doing the rounds yet again. I won't bore you with them, but there are a couple of new ones currently.

People are receiving text messages allegedly from mobile service provider EE, stating that they have been unable to obtain funds for your current bill, and that you need to update your payment details. This is a scam. I received the same text message approximately 3 weeks ago. I was fully aware that my direct debit date was no where near, so I knew instantly I was being scammed. Be careful, if you are unsure, contact your provider on a completely different number and verify the text. Do not provide any of your details or your bank details to these people.

Another one which has surfaced relates to parcel delivery couriers. You will either receive a text message or a slip posted through your door, stating they have been unable to deliver a parcel. If you're not expecting one DO NOT RESPOND.

## Christmas Presents:

My apologies for writing on more doom and gloom issues. North Wales Police have again issued their usual warning, which is customary at this time of the year. Be vigilant when wrapping presents and storing them underneath your Christmas trees. Be sure that these cannot be seen from outside. During this season of goodwill, we do not want to present any 'low life' human being, with the opportunity of ruining your family Christmas. It has been well established over the years that these people are out purely and simply looking for the opportunity to break-in and steal your possessions.

Always keep your doors and windows closed and secured, especially when you are going out. If you have an alarm — set it.

Keep your vehicles locked and alarmed even when on your own driveway and ensure sheds and outbuildings are secure.

If you see anything that looks suspicious to you, then dial 101 for non urgent matters and make the Police aware. If you see a stranger hanging round, if safe to do so, note down a description of them and any vehicle details, this will assist the Police greatly. DO NOT CONFRONT anyone, stay safe and stay secure.

Be vigilant on behalf of your neighbours, because they are probably doing the same for you.

It goes without saying, should there be an incident which requires immediate response, dial 999, again pass on as much detail as possible, the Police will thank you for that.

I think I should return to more festive matters now. Enough DOOM and GLOOM!

## Neighbours at Christmas:

Whilst we are all celebrating the season with family or friends, please spare a thought for those less fortunate. Neighbours who have no family, spending this Christmas alone, give them a knock, more so now, as the weather has been cold and is expected to get colder. Make sure they are keeping warm, eating and spare them 5 minutes for a chat. It will mean the world to them, knowing that someone else has the time to make for them.

You will get your reward in Heaven.

## Christmas Lunches:

The 2 recent Christmas lunch days held at the Parish Hall proved to be a great success yet again. A number of Community Councillors and the caretakers performed their duties as 'waiting on' staff to perfection That was their description not mine!

Well done to all members who assisted over the 2 days.

## A pat on the back:

I would one again like to congratulate Sheila Edwards for being selected as Villager of the Year for Coedpoeth. Sheila is a Community Council member and works tirelessly for the village, organising events, engaged with committees for this and for that, spending many hours of her own time working on behalf of others and above all, she is a 'good egg'. Thanks for your efforts Sheila. I know it is much appreciated by the community and by the Community Council. Well done.

## More good news:

I am not sure if I have covered this matter previously, but I will cover it again, just because I can!

I would like to extend a warm welcome to Katy Owen personally and from the Community Council. Katy has now formally commenced her role as Clerk with the council, based within the Old Carnegie Library.

Having stepped in to the breach as it were, prior to her formal commencement date, Katy took an active role in a number of meetings whilst the previous clerk was indisposed. These undertakings were voluntary, but one which Katy embraced with enthusiasm and relish.

With many years experience under her belt and braces, gained with WCBC, Katy has brought a sense 'Let's get things done' attitude and she will be a most valuable asset to the Community and the Community Council. She can be contacted on tel: 01978 756890.

Welcome on board Katy.

## Photographic Exhibition:

Currently on display in the Old Carnegie Library, an exhibition of photographs by Rob Edwards.

I would urge people to come along and view the exhibition, it is fantastic. Rob's previous collection of photographs proved to be very popular with residents, bringing back many forgotten memories. Well, Rob has done it again with this brilliant exhibition. Once viewed let me know your views. Will run for many more weeks.

## Community Agent:

Arthur Evens continues to hold his weekly drop-in sessions at the Old Carnegie Library, every Wednesday between 2pm-3pm. He can also be contacted on tel: 07908 801 471. Feel free to join him for a chat and a brew.

## Village Bowling Club:

As you may have seen over recent weeks, a tremendous amount of work has been completed on the bowling green to re-invigorate the playing surface. The green suffered greatly from last year's 'heat-wave' burning the grass to the extent it was like playing on glass. The sub-soil had become so compacted any watering proved to be all but ineffective. It is now hoped that the recent works will rectify this issue and the grass can flourish no matter what the weather throws at us.

Well done Peter for all your hard work.

## Walking Football:

This form of football, designed for the over 50s has really taken off within the village. Playing at the Muga every Friday between 12pm-1pm (weather permitting) This has now been expanded with an additional playing day on Monday inside the Parish Hall between 12.30pm-1.30pm.

Anyone interested can contact myself via the email at the end of this newsletter or the Community Agent on tel: 07908 801 471. Come along, have some fun, keep fit and mobile. We have a regular turn-out of 10 players of all abilities.

You will enjoy it.

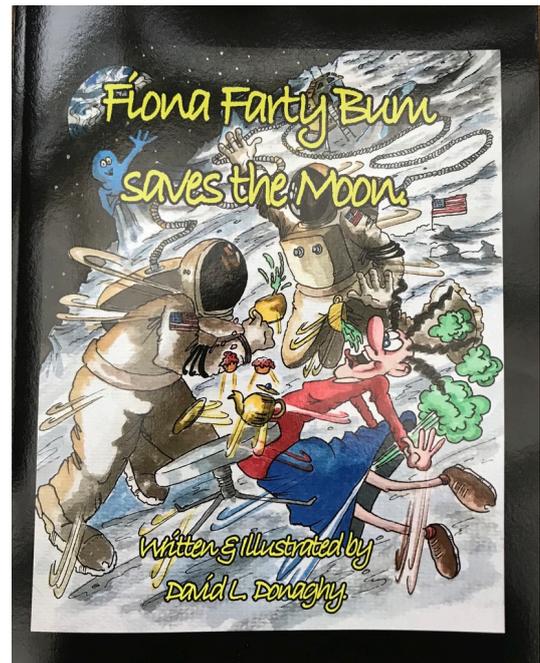
## New Publication:

I am please to announce the publication of my second children's book:

Fiona Farty Bum saves the Moon.

No computer graphics have been used, all artwork is completely hand-drawn original work.

The book is now available on Amazon and the third book in the series will be published at the end of January 2020.



## Gardening Club:

Many thanks to Jane Robertson, who once again has provided me with a detailed summery of the clubs recent activities.

During November the club invited local school children to participate in a general litter pick. They were then able to watch volunteers from the Long Forest Project lay the hedge bordering the Top Bank.

Cuttings from strawberry runners were potted up and placed on sale at the Plas Pentwyn Christmas fair. A general tidy up of the site was carried out, during which a baby hedgehog was rescued, it is hoped that with some TLC it will increase its body weight and be able to hibernate .

The life of a gardener is such that we all have to endure the bitterly cld weather. The school children assisted with grass raking and creating habitat bundles to support the wildlife through the winter.

We had a stall at the Christmas fair with lots of goodies, potted plants, bulbs and plenty of bric-a-brac. A good day was had by all.

Well done to the club members and well done to all the kids who attended during this period and hopefully had a great time.

Thanks agin Jane.

## Editor's Comment:

As I have now completed four editions of the Cloch Maelor, I am finding there is a distinct lack of feed back both from the community and from the Community Council. I am having to work hard to gather information which is not readily forthcoming from the aforementioned elements. A number of clubs and societies contact the Community Council for assistance with donations of some description. What the council is finding is that these same groups are selling or exhibiting their wares — so to speak, solely at Plas Pentwyn.

There is a very usable space, namely the Parish Hall, and the Old Carnegie Library which is in the heart of the village, yet with the exception of Rob Edwards and his photography displays, and some limited group use, no-one else considers the said venues.

The Parish Hall would make a great exhibition space for the Art Group and the Camera Club to name two. A space where paintings etc could be hung on the walls, for the wider community to come along and enjoy works of art or to discover the world of photography.

As I see it, being a relatively new comer to the village (resident now for 4 years) The Parish Hall as with all other village facilities needs to be utilised more than the current level.

I am working closely with the council clerk and caretakers to rectify this situation, the Hall has just been hired out for two sporting sessions in January to a local rival Football Club - Brickfield Rangers, which will generate some much needed revenue.

Whilst I accept the Parish Hall is not the most inviting venue from the outside, but the Community Council constantly discuss this issue at their meetings. Ideas and suggestions are put forward, and whilst finance is the current stumbling block, it is hoped that in the not too distant future some renovations may be carried out. I believe it is some 150 years old and in need of some TLC

It is hoped that come the New Year, plans for indoor events may be revealed, in an attempt to attract market traders, farmers markets, indoor 'boot' sales, not to mention more sporting sessions. It will be a case of 'watch this space'.

I am pleased to announce that Arthur Evens and his 'walking footballers' have added an extra day to their playing activities. Not only playing on Friday between 12pm-1pm, they now play indoor at the Parish Hall on Monday between 12.30pm — 13.30pm. Its open to anyone over 50.

One suggestion I would put forward, during the spring and summer months, why not have 'the village in bloom' We have plenty of houses and businesses along the High Street, not to mention the school and the Church and with the gardening club located on our doorstep, it could be made a colourful and aromatic location. One which visitors to North Wales may stop and say, "Wouldn't it be nice to live here."



*Merry Christmas to all from the Editor - Cloch Maelor.*

Editor: David Donaghy.

Email: [david.donaghy@coedpoeth.com](mailto:david.donaghy@coedpoeth.com)

Artwork: David Donaghy.

The Cloch Maelor is produced with the support of Coedpoeth Community Council.

Cllr. Ben Brown has produced a printed version of bus timetables which I believe will be available at the Old Carnegie Library. I was unable to include this in previous editions due to the file being corrupted, which affected the rest of the newsletter. Thanks for your efforts Ben.