

100 Year Commemoration of the end of World War 1 1914 - 1918

Cefn Hengoed & Hengoed Memorial

Following public interest for a memorial to serve the villages of Cefn Hengoed & Hengoed and to mark 100 years of the end of the Great War, Gelligaer Community Council set about finding a suitable location for the installation of a memorial. Derwendeg Primary School seemed like the ideal location and thankfully Head teacher Mr Stewart Davies was fully on board. The legalities of leasing a small section of the school ground and health & safety matters delayed us in installing the memorial during the summer holidays as planned. In fact it would take a further 8 weeks before work could commence.

With only two weeks before Armistice and with the weather on our side, Voyle Construction set to work, and pulled off a small but beautiful miracle.

Cllr Donna Cushing and Ceri Mortimer (Clerk) met with Pastor Stephen Darby to prepare a remembrance service. Also the search for a bugler was on, but thankfully, with little time to spare, Cllr Donna Cushing came up trumps.



WW1 Mugs — Also to commemorate the centenary of the end of WWI we designed a commemorative mug for all the pupils in our 8 primary schools. Some of our local army veterans were gifted a mug too.



Lamp Post Poppies — We purchased 300 lamp post poppies from the Royal British Legion and erected them throughout our villages and town with the help of Dave Cook and the 1st Ystrad Mynach Scouts and Ashley Bird and the Ystrad Mynach Air Force Cadets. A few of our Community Councillors helped and residents of Tiryberth, who supported the RBL through purchasing their own poppies and erecting them. Whilst driving through our town and villages the beautiful display of lamp post poppies was a moving reminder and another fitting tribute to our fallen.

Cefn Hengoed & Hengoed Memorial Armistice Service

Sunday 11th November 2018

On a cold and wet Remembrance Sunday morning Cllr Judith Pritchard, Vice Chair to Gelligaer Community Council, welcomed a large gathering of residents for the official unveiling of the memorial.

Pastor Stephen Darby delivered a moving service and Mr John Grisley (Retired Warrant Officer Class 2 1st Battalion The Royal Regiment of Wales 24th 41st a foot, now known as The Royal Welsh) assisted with the Exhortation.

In Flanders Fields' by John McCrae (1915) was read by Ceri Mortimer (Clerk). 'The Lord's my Shepherd' (Psalm 23), was performed by Cefn Hengoed Ladies' Choir, conducted by Musical Director Rhiannon Pittwood, with special thanks to Margaret Church for coordinating this.

At 11 o'clock our trumpeter, Gabriella Idzi, pupil of Bedwas Comprehensive School, began playing 'The Last Post'. It concluded with 'Reveille' otherwise known as the Awakening, at which poignantly the cloud lifted and the sun broke through.

We folded away our brollies, pulled back our hoods, straightened our backs but kept our heads bowed in quiet reflection at the sight of the wreaths, poppies and crosses placed around the inscribed black marble stone, with our thoughts of the bravery and sacrifices given by so many for our freedom.



Young Citizen's Award at Llancaiach Fawr

Continuing with the same theme, the 100 year Commemoration of the end of WWI, three outstanding nominations were received from Lewis School Pengam for the Young Citizen's Award which we hold every year at Llancaiach Fawr.

Nathan Rose, MacKenzie Turner and Lucas Morgan pictured with the then Chair Cllr Alan Angel receiving their certificates and gifts. They were nominated by their Deputy Head Teacher Mr Mike Oliver for their extensive research and tending to the grave of a former pupil, a Forgotten Soldier, Lance Corporal Haydn Carlyle Phillips 14894 5th Battalion South Wales Borders. Haydn Carlyle Phillips was a young man who served during the First World War and was gassed during the German Spring Offensive. He was sent home due to his injuries, and sadly later died, aged just 22 years.

He is buried with his mother and father at St Cattwg's Church. The grave had been vandalised and was in disrepair. Nathan, Mackenzie and Lucas have cleaned and weeded the grave and work has been undertaken to straighten the stone and have the lettering professionally replaced.

An appeal has been presented to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission's Appeal Panel to get Haydn the recognition he deserves. Back in November, a service was also held at St Cattwg's Church for Haydn which was attended by our Chair Cllr Alan Angel, Vice Chair Cllr Judith Pritchard, Cllr Teresa Parry and our AM Hefin David.



**Cyngor Cymuned
Gelligaer
Community Council**



COMMUNITY AWARD 2019

If you know of anyone living in Gelligaer, Penybryn, Cascade, Hengoed, Cefn Hengoed, Tiryberth, Glanynant or Ystrad Mynach that have undertaken a good deed or achieved something special that you feel deserves recognition please nominate them (with their permission) for an award, by getting in touch. The award categories are:

Community Service Volunteer

Young Citizen's Award (up to 21 years)

We will need their name, address and a brief description of their achievement. The Young Citizen's Award can be for achieving anything special.

Nominees that are successful will be invited with their families to a presentation afternoon at Llancaiach Fawr on Saturday 23rd November 2019.

*Please hand your nominations to your local Councillor or send via email to: **mor-tic1@caerphilly.gov.uk***

**Closing Date for Nominations:
Monday 1st September 2019**




Nathan Rose, MacKenzie Turner and Lucas Morgan pictured with Cllr Alan Angel

If you know of any person (of any age) that has achieved something special, shown remarkable kindness in helping others or a long serving volunteer, then we would really like to hear from you.

Llancaiach Fawr Presentation

Our annual presentation was a great success, awarding grants to our wonderful clubs. This is an important event in our calendar as it gives us an opportunity to recognize and thank our volunteers for their hard work in putting on classes and events at our community centres, youth clubs and village halls throughout the year. It also allows us to showcase what the community council has achieved over the year with the various projects, clubs and charities that we have supported. Bargoed Male Voice Choir performed for us last year at Llancaiach Fawr and £260 was raised at the event for the Royal British Legion. And an enjoyable afternoon was had by all!!

We look forward to your company again this year.



PROJECTS— in addition to the projects already covered in this newsletter, a few more to list are:

Christmas lighting, hanging flowering Baskets, family day trips to the seaside, 8 pantomime performances, Ystrad Mynach Christmas Fayre.

We paid towards the tarmacing of the Gelligaer Welfare access road and the pathway to access the Welfare at Hengoed. We supported the refurbishment of the Youth Club, Cefn Hengoed. We organized and funded creative writing workshops at our many schools.

We funded Petra Publishing to support pupils in Ysgol Gymraeg Penalltau to write a bilingual book, with workshops to be rolled out to all 8 schools.

We installed a compost toilet at Parc Penallta and extended the toilet opening hours at Ystrad Mynach Park. Little did we know then that plans were afoot to close our public toilets in the town.

We installed bollards at Llwyn Onn, Penpedairheol because of vehicles being parked on pavements and lawns of our elderly and vulnerable residents.

In addition to the installation of our new memorial, we also purchased and installed 3 Royal British Legion Tommy soldiers for the memorials at Tiryberth, Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr and outside Glanynant Memorial Hall.

Councillor's Contact Details:

Please contact them if you have any issues.

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Hengoed	J Pritchard Chair	01443 832785 / 07968 051824 judithpritchard@btinternet.com
Gelligaer	C.M Bezzina	01443 815588 bezzinac@caerphilly.gov.uk
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Tiryberth		
Ystrad Mynach	A.P. Angel	01443 862816 / 07935 272163 angela1@caerphilly.gov.uk
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Clerk	C. Mortimer	07933 725094 / 01443 822863 mortic1@caerphilly.gov.uk
Office opening to the public: Wed & Thurs 10.30–2.30 (and at other times with prior arrangement)		Gelligaer Community Council Llwyn Onn Penpedairheol Hengoed CF82 8BB



THE YOUTH CENTRE

CEFN HENGOED

It's all Good News at the Youth Centre in Cefn Hengoed. The rather run-down building behind the blue fence opposite the Cross Keys pub (also known as the Boxing Club and the CB Club from times past) is having a face-lift. The hall has already been painted and adapted for the Job Club, which meets all day on Wednesdays (9-5) along with the Citizen's Advice Bureau on Wednesday mornings (9.30-12.30). In July there will be further work on the hall so that the Extend exercise class on Monday mornings (10-11) will have more room to fling themselves about - Come and Join us!

The Youth Club on Wednesday evenings (6-8) are planning an exciting range of activities in September after the summer break and will warmly welcome new members aged 12 – 25. And the Croeso Club (mostly 50+ but all ages welcome) are planning new activities and trips for the autumn. This friendly group meet on Thursday mornings (9.30 – 12). We would welcome new groups or classes – if there is anything special you would like us to put on at the centre, just let us know.

We will also be open for birthday parties after the summer. For further information and bookings contact Judith Pritchard 01443 832785.



Gelligaer Community Council Newsletter

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www.gelligaercommunitycouncil.org.uk

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Retiring Chairman's Address



This was my third term as Chair of Gelligaer Community Council. Being elected as Chair is always a great honour. Over the year I presented cheques to various clubs within our community which include the Ystrad Mynach Boys and Girls Club, Gelligaer Boxing Club, Ystrad Mynach Male Voice Choir, and latterly Matthew Walklin's Make a Smile Foundation (through the Mayor's Charity Appeal), funds of which are ring fenced for the new Breast Cancer Care Unit in Ysbyty Ystrad Fawr. I have also attended a few events such as the Christmas Fayre, our inspiring Young Citizen's Presentation at Llancaiach Fawr (more on that later), and more recently the Spring Fayre in Ystrad Mynach coordinated by Fiona from Fab Fabrics and supported by the Community Council. It was a lovely occasion bringing the community together.

Wishing you all a good summer,
Cllr Alan Angel, Retiring Chair



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