

# Coed-y-Paen News

December 2017

## **Forthcoming Events**

- Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec, 9am – Christingle Sevice,  
Christchurch
- Wed 13<sup>th</sup> Dec, 7 for 7.30 – Christmas Dinner  
at the Carpenters Arms
- Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Dec, 9am – Gwent Ornithological  
Soc walk around res.
- Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Dec, 10 - 3pm – Llandegfedd  
Christmas Market
- Sun 24<sup>th</sup> 6.30 – Village Carol Service,  
Christchurch
- Wed 21<sup>st</sup> Feb – Residents Association AGM
- Sat 27<sup>th</sup> Jan – Burns Night Supper (for Hope  
& Homes for Children)
- Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> Mar – Poems & Pints

## **What's been happening?**

### **New resident in The Carpenters Arms**

Congratulations to Connor and Kath who had a son, Elias, on 1<sup>st</sup> December. Looking forward to seeing him behind the bar!

### **MBE for Rachel Butler**

Congratulations to Rachel Butler who was, in the Queen's Birthday Honours, awarded an MBE "for services to the development of Genomics in Wales and across the UK". Rachel is head of the all Wales Genetics Laboratory where they are striving to develop and innovate new Genomic and Precision Medicine services which will make a big difference to cancer patients. This is such an important field in medicine, but Rachel is so modest it was months before we knew! Gary and the boys will accompany her to Buckingham Palace in the New Year to receive the award.

### **Village Barbecue**

On a very wet Sunday in September, over 50 people came to what became an 'indoor' barbecue. We had, with help from Gary & Chris Butler, covered much of the patio with the awning and gazebos to provide limited dry spaces. All the meat (finished on the bbq by Graham wearing an anorak!) was from the village – Roger Morgan's lamb pieces and Morris' pork sausages and burgers – and everyone brought a salad or raffle prize. Though most people were indoors, we had a good time and, with donations and raffle, raised the magnificent sum of £644 for the church.

*Sue Rogers*

### **Hope and Homes for Children**

*The wonderful sum of £3,800 was raised at a concert in Usk at the beginning of November. Called Ruth Jones introduces...it was a variety concert of local talent held in the Conservative Club and very ably compèred by the Welsh actress. The UK government will matchfund this amount. Thanks to the many villagers who supported this evening and helped towards this amazing total.*

The next event that the Support Group are organising is **Burns Night** to be held on **Saturday January 27th** at Jancariad (Jean's) Book your place soon for haggis and a real live Piper! A fun evening is guaranteed. No tickets, donations to HHC, first come, first served!

*Jean Scarborough*

## **Residents Association News**

**Chairperson needed!** John Hargreaves will stand down as Chairman at the AGM on Feb after many years (must be more than 20) as either Chair or Secretary. His work on behalf of the village in these roles has been tremendous, not to mention the practical work he does for the church. It is time for someone else take a lead, but none of the present committee members feels able to put themselves forward. The role need not be onerous, but if you do have a vision for our village it would be an opportunity to realise it. John or any committee member, past or present, would be happy to chat about the role if you think you could be interested.

**Village bench** We are very grateful to Bob Dawkins for removing the visible part of the tree stump to the side of the bench. It took enormous effort even with a chainsaw, but its removal enables us to move forward with improving the area. The Committee favour cladding the retaining wall in stone and perhaps incorporating planters. Costings are being sought and a proposal will be made at the AGM. If you have any other suggestions on how the area can be improved, please let me know.

*Sue Rogers*

## **Church News**

Services in December are as follows:

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9am - Christingle Service - A special service involving several children (with thanks to Amy Morley)

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>, 10.30am - Holy Eucharist (joint Benefice Service )

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>, 6.30pm Evensong

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>, 6.30pm Village Christmas Carol Service

Christmas Day, 9am - Holy Eucharist

All welcome!

*Jean Scarborough*

## **Community Council News**

I attended a Prison Council Liaison meeting earlier this month and raised our concerns about speeding prison traffic especially whilst the current road closure is in place. The Deputy Governor said he would have a word with prisoners and staff. (Not everyone got the message, obviously, and I have sent a reminder to the prison).

Not a lot to report on the planning front. The community council strongly opposed the planning application to convert the stable just off the Treherbert Road to a holiday let. MonCC Planning agreed and refused the application, as did the Planning Inspector when the applicant appealed.

*Graham Rogers*

## **Events at the Reservoir**

On Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Dec there will be 2 events at the reservoir. At 9am, a 2.5 – 3 hour walk will set off from the Fishermen's Car Park (north end), led by Keith Roylance of the Gwent Ornithological Soc (non-members welcome). It will be around the part of the res. which is closed to the public during winter because of the over-wintering birds. The car park will be locked when the walk starts and not reopened before the end.

Between 10am and 3pm, there will be a Christmas Market in and around the Visitor Centre, organised by and raising funds for Dementia Friends.

## **Next newsletter**

If you have any items for the next Newsletter, please send them to the editor, Sue Rogers, via [coedypaenresidents@gmail.com](mailto:coedypaenresidents@gmail.com) or call on 672170.