

# YSTRADOWEN VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Spring 2017

## Dear Fellow Villagers,

Welcome to the first edition of the Ystradowen village newsletter. Following on from the success of the recent consultation events, and with new residents moving into the village, not to mention the B words (Brexit and broadband), it was felt that a quarterly newsletter would be one way of bringing the different parts of the village and community together. So whether you are a Baby boomer or older, a member of Generation X, a Millennial, or even born into Generation Z, we hope the newsletter will be a way of sharing news, and creating an inclusive, supportive community.

In this first edition, we have aimed to give you some up-dates on those important issues that are on everyone's lips as well as bring you a variety of news from people who live, work or play in Ystradowen. There are also introductions to just some of the groups/organisations in the village and surrounding area – more to follow in the next edition.

If you have news that you would like included in the summer edition of the newsletter, want to get involved in any way and join the editorial team, or even have ideas about how the newsletter could evolve, please contact us at the email address below. If you would like to receive the newsletter in a different format (email or larger print), do let us know.

Sara Howells, Editor  
ystradnews@gmail.com

## Facebook Village Hub

You'll all have seen the big sign draped across the wall next to the post box. Yes! Ystradowen now has its own Facebook page. Do sign up to Ystradowen Village Hub for the latest news or to post your own stories/requests.

## Village Funding Bid Gets Stage 1 Approval

**STOP THE PRESS!** The YCSA has won approval from the Welsh Government to proceed to Stage 2 in its bid for £128,000 of Rural Communities funding to help improve facilities in the village.

The scheme is being run in partnership with the Vale of Glamorgan Council which will itself contribute £66,000 of Section 106 funding received from the developers of Edenbrook.

The bid has been designed to draw down as much funding as possible from the EU funds being used by the Welsh Government. The go-ahead has been given for more detailed planning and financial costings to be drawn up by 2 October 2017 for the following:

1. **Design and build an Early Years play area at Badgers Brook Green;** provide picnic and seating for accompanying adults to form a community picnic and barbecue area.
2. **Improvements at Parc Owain** (behind the all-weather pitch). Design and build mini play park and pétanque (French boules) piste designed to blend appropriately with the rural parkland setting; improve footpaths; erect interpretative information panels to form a Heritage and Habitat Trail; create a Trim Trail outdoor fitness facility.
3. **Extend the Village Hall** to provide additional space for clubs, classes, a Superfast digital hub and outreach work.
4. **Capital spending** needed to create a community digital & entertainment hub located at Ystradowen Village hall and linked to the Superfast Cymru network.

We have already achieved a great deal by getting to Stage 2 of this all-Wales contest, but there is much more to be done. Thirty years ago the Village Hall was built voluntarily by Ystradowen for Ystradowen. We will need to rely on this community spirit again, if we are to satisfy all our needs. **If you have the skills, experience, or knowledge required to help with the design, costings, build, or finishing trades and you'd like to help the village, we'd love to hear from you.**

Chris Howard [christopher.howard@tesco.net](mailto:christopher.howard@tesco.net)

## A Big Thanks!

So it's full steam ahead for Chris Howard, and his enthusiastic and committed team of helpers on preparing the final bid. We owe a great deal of thanks to Chris for leading and writing the bid, and to all of the YCSA committee who have helped organise the consultation events and liaised with the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

Of course, a huge thank you goes to ALL OF YOU who participated in the process, either by voting at the Fireworks evening, filling in the survey, or attending the January consultation event. Getting ideas from the local community is a vital requisite for a successful bid. The key features of the bid came from **YOUR IDEAS**.

Do remember that the community now has a bank of great ideas to work with in the future. Unlike those set out in the bid, some of them do not require money, just some time from residents. So even if you cannot commit on a regular basis because of work commitments, family, or health, do let the YCSA committee know if you want to be a member of a pool of villagers we can call upon. If the bid is successful, we'll also need volunteers to run the digital hub, cinema nights, youth club, or even join the pétanque club and compete in the south Wales league...

**Contact: Chris Kipling (772726), Rod Howells (07885370118), Tony Williams (775420).**

## A Tribute to Bob Ives

It is with great sadness that we have learned of the passing of Bob Ives. Friend and neighbour, David Burnham, has very kindly written a tribute:

*Bob was an Ystradowenian from the day he moved into the village in 1980 until he passed away in February 2017. Originally from Portsmouth, Bob came to work in South Wales in 1970 eventually retiring in 2011.*

*At home, Bob busied himself in his garden and the garage where he put his woodwork skills to good use for his family and friends. When the village needed advice, he was on hand with tools and skills. In the early 1980s, the clarion call went*

*out for aid to provide a village hall. Amongst others, Bob stepped forward to assist with the physical effort needed to dismantle, carry, dig, paint whatever, whenever, and wherever. In particular, he had a major input into the interior lighting system.*

*The village garden by the bus-stop used to be an uncared for patch of common land. Following an idea spawned by members of the local WI, a group of local folk including Bob agreed to manage the task of converting the eyesore into a suitable feature. Plans were laid, permissions were agreed, grants were applied for, and work began in 2000 and completed in 2001.*

*Bob will be remembered by many for various reasons. In particular, he initiated laughter in others with his dry wit, impish responses and cheeky innuendo.*

*David Burnham*

## Broadband Update from BT

A major gripe for all villagers which emerged at all of the consultations events was the frustration with the poor broadband connection and speeds in the village. Some villagers receive 1 MB or less, some have no connection at all. In February 2016, Jane Hutt AM arranged a meeting with BT which took place in the village hall. Alun Cairns MP also met with members of Penllyn Community Council. Since then, progress has been excruciatingly slow and detailed up-dates from BT about the coverage and expected date of connection have been difficult to obtain. This is very frustrating for all, but particularly for those who run their business from home and children trying to complete their on-line homework. The latest up-date from BT (27.3.17) sent to the village broadband email contact, Graham Roberts, is set out below:

*"We have decided to upgrade the cable all the way to the village from the cabinet to improve the infrastructure. However, we have discovered multiple blockages and damage to the ductwork which we need to unblock and replace. We are in the process of doing this and we expect the FTTP build to be complete towards the middle of April now. Whilst it's a*

*delay to the build it will give the community a better service and increase resiliency which we feel is the right thing to do".*

They further comment, *"We are hoping to do the FTTC install in the same timescales."*

Graham says, "Looking around the village they appear to have started work in earnest now. Let's hope it continues! Also be aware that after they have completed there will still be a few weeks delay before fibre can be ordered." Graham Roberts ([ystradfibregmail.com](mailto:ystradfibregmail.com))

## Broadband survey

In the meantime, it has been a relief to learn that the Vale of Glamorgan Creative Rural Communities team in Cowbridge (Tel: 01446 704754) are also on the case and collating data on the current situation through an on-line survey. They say,

"We are still looking for people to complete our Broadband survey so if anyone would like send the link around that would be great it is at [www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/valebroadband](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/valebroadband)

*We are trying to map which areas will be enabled by Super Fast at the moment to see if there will be any areas left without being upgraded, if there are we can work with them to look at other alternative solutions. We are hoping to have a meeting with Welsh Government shortly so if there are any more details on the issues Ystradowen is having please let me know."*

So if your connection speed allows you to (!), please complete the survey as soon as possible.

## Villagers beware! Scam!

The YSCA committee has been notified by a Penllyn Community Councillor that some residents have reported receiving scam calls claiming to be from BT or a similar internet provider asking for money to obtain a quicker connection. This is clearly a scam and residents should not hesitate to put the phone down.

## The White Lion transforms into the Meadow Vale

It's the question that everyone is asking - when will The White Lion be re-opening? It's been over two years since the pub was boarded up. We have all been waiting with bated breath as, what had become an eyesore in our village, is blossoming into a chic Vale eatery which will be renamed, **Meadow Vale**. So what can we expect from the new owners? The Ystradowen village newsletter has obtained an **EXCLUSIVE** interview with new landlord, Paul Jones. Paul, an experienced landlord, with over 36 years' experience in the business and who has run four pubs in the past, the most recent being the Llangenor Arms, near Bridgend, has taken on the challenge of doing up the ageing building, and opening a business in what we all know are tough times for those in the pub/restaurant trade.

Paul says that the Meadow Vale will be a, *"food-led business, serving fresh home-cooked food in good size portions. We shall be open from 9-4pm from Tuesday- Sunday and there will be a range of food on offer. Breakfast will be available with the traditional teas, coffees and toast as well as a selection of patisseries. Full lunches will be on offer and Sunday lunches too."* Paul adds, *"Don't forget there will be a full bar."*

Paul is well aware that villagers will be disappointed to learn that Meadow Vale will not be open in evenings, but he will be keeping this under review. He hopes that, *"villagers will appreciate having a well-run business in the community by two experienced landlords."* Paul confirms that Meadow Vale will welcome villagers including those with families, and is hoping that the Meadow Vale will become a go-to destination for visitors to the Vale.

The final touches are being put in place, but due to unforeseen circumstances, Paul has had to delay the grand opening until Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2017. We wish Paul and business partner, Keith, all the very best with their new business venture. I don't know about you, but I am looking forward to tasting one of their patisseries already!

### Pavements

An important concern raised by some of you in the survey was the poor state of the pavements in the village, in particular the lack of dropped kerbs, and the inability to be able to walk along the pavement from one side of the village to the other in its entirety, or to Cowbridge. This issue has been raised with Penllyn Community Council which will be pursuing the matter with the Vale of Glamorgan Council.

### Ystradowen Point-to-Point

Springtime sees Ystradowen host two Point-to-Point meets on the West side of the village towards Llansannor at Uplands Farm (take the lane just past St. Owain's Church, turn right, and Uplands Farm is at the top of the hill on the left). This is great family occasion which attracts both locals and the horse-racing community from far and wide. Refreshments are available. You can park (for a fee) or walk from the village. The Glamorgan Hunt Point-to-Point Steeplechase took place on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March, and the Ystrad Fachan meet was held on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April. Both glorious sunny days. Let's hope it's the same next year!

### Polite request from local farmers

Now the weather has improved and everyone wants to bask in the sunshine and breathe in the fresh air, the YCSA has received a polite request from local farmers asking walkers to respect the Countryside Code when walking across agricultural land. In recent weeks, and in this very important lambing season, walkers have left gates open allowing animals to escape. Most importantly, dogs should be kept on a short lead (1 March - 31 July). This is for your own safety especially with cows and their calves in the fields surrounding the village. And always remember to 'bag it and bin it'. For more info, go to

[www.naturalresources.wales](http://www.naturalresources.wales)

### Ysgol Iolo Morganwg, Tymor y Gwanwyn/Spring Term 2017

The Eisteddfod featured prominently throughout the school term with pupils competing in the Dance, Instrumental, Cân Actol, CogUrdd, Cylch and Sir Eisteddfod, and also the Art and Craft competition which will be judged after Easter. Thank you to all who competed and congratulations to the winners, we wish them well at the National Urdd Eisteddfod in May.

*Bu'r Eisteddfod yn agwedd nodweddiadol ym mywyd yr ysgol yn ystod y tymor gyda disgyblion yn cystadlu yn yr Eisteddfodau Dawns, Offerynnol, Cân Actol, CogUrdd, Cylch a Sir ynghyd a'r cystadlaethau Celf a Chrefft sydd i'w beirniadu ar ôl y Pasg. Diolch i bob un a chystadlwyd a llongyfarchiadau i'r enillwyr, dymunwn yn dda i'r rhai fydd nawr yn mynd ymlaen i'r Eisteddfod Genedlaethol ym mis Mai.*

PTA events included 'Cinema Nights' for the pupils, and Twmpath to celebrate St David's Day which was enjoyed by all. *Trefnwyd 'Nosweithiau Sinema' gan CRAFF i'r disgyblion, a Twmpath i bawb i ddathlu Dydd Gwyl Dewi.*

Charity fundraising events were also held in aid of Winston's Wish, NSPCC, Velindre Hospital and Comic Relief. *Yn ogystal, codwyd arian ar gyfer yr elusennau Winston's Wish, NSPCC, Ysbyty Velindre a Comic Relief.*

Cath Pugh

The **Urdd Eisteddfod** will be held this year in Bridgend from 29 May – 3 June. Over 15,000 children and young people from all over Wales will be competing in a range of events. Why not go along to support them?

<http://www.urdd.cymru/en/eisteddfod/>

**Wanted: News correspondents for Llansannor CIW Primary, Y Bont Faen Primary, and Cowbridge Comprehensive.**

## **Pendoylan CIW Primary School**

It has been a hectic term in Pendoylan with children competing in the Eisteddfod, wearing anything red and crazy wigs for Comic Relief, and dressing up as their favourite literary character for World Book Day. The BIG NEWS is that headteacher, Mrs. Lyn Murray, will be retiring at the end of the summer term. The new headteacher, Mrs. Paula Vaughan, currently head at Penygraig Infant and Junior School, will start in September.

The 'Friends of Pendoylan School' have been busy fund-raising with cinema nights and a disco with the infamous DJ Sterling. There will be a **Summer and Retirement Ball on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July** in the Vale Hotel to say a farewell to Mrs. Murray. This event is open to all, so if you are a past pupil, or past parent, and want to wish Mrs. Murray well, please contact Cath (07977566525). Tickets £45 and selling fast!

## **GARDENERS' CORNER**

### **Gardening Club**

It would hard to miss the well-kept lay-by behind the bus stop and telephone box at the centre of the village. From 2001-20, the village of Ystradowen entered and won the Best Kept Village in the Vale of Glamorgan competition no less than FIVE times, coming second and third in other years. In 2004, the village won the Community Award in the Calor Gas National Competition. The prize money has allowed the gardening team to continue to upkeep the lovely gardens and plants pots at the centre of the village.

To keep Ystradowen looking pretty and pristine, the **Gardening Club** are keen to recruit new members. No gardening experience necessary – just enthusiasm - and some gardening gloves and a green recycling bad if you have one free. So if you enjoy the outdoors, and want to de-stress after a busy week as well as meet some

friendly faces, come along to on the **first Saturday in the month from March to October at 10.30am** (weather permitting) for about one and a half hours. For more information, please contact Rose Ives (774809) or Mavis Burnham (774808).

## *Cowbridge Flower Arranging Club*

Ever wondered how to turn a bouquet of supermarket flowers into a spectacular floral display to wow visitors to your home, or the local congregation? Why not join the Cowbridge Flower Arranging Club? The Club, which celebrates its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, meets on the first Wednesday of each month at Cowbridge Town Hall (Lesser Hall) at 7.30pm. At each meeting, a top qualified florist gives a demonstration which is then raffled off at the end of the evening. So you may be lucky enough to go home at the end of the evening with a professional display for your home.

Why not come along and give it a try? The meetings are not just for the ladies: everyone is welcome! Our next meeting is on Wednesday 3rd May 2017. You can pay an annual membership or just pay as you go. If you require more information, please contact **Pauline Collins (01443 524051)** or **Barbara Gray (01446 774333)**.

## *Bordervale Plants, Nant y deri, Sandy Lane*

We are very fortunate in Ystradowen to have so many gifted gardeners including our own nursery complete with award-winning owner, Claire Jenkins, who is always available to give some trusted advice or new ideas for your garden.

The owner of the plant nursery, **Bordervale Plants**, Claire, has had a life-long love of horticulture and country life. She was brought up by parents that were keen gardeners and enjoyed a very large garden in the Midlands from her earliest years.

Her passion grew over time and she decided to study horticulture at college combined with a huge amount of private study, as well as learning from the local branches of the Hardy Plant and Alpine Garden Societies. In 1998 she was

determined to start an unusual plants nursery at **Nant y deri**. Her main aim was to bring to the Vale plants not easily available at garden centres and which would thrive in the local wet Welsh climate; also very mindful of the great variations in the area from the sea shore to the hills of Glamorgan.

Having won medals at the Royal Horticultural Society Shows in Cardiff for exhibits of unusual perennials, trees and shrubs, she has been on local TV, on gardening panels and an extra mural lecturer for Rhondda Cynon Taff. Claire is also a member of the Chartered Institute of Horticulture.

Claire's nursery, Bordervale Plants has supplied gardens in Wales, Europe and even the Moscow Botanic Garden! The garden at Nant y deri is a couple of acres and has developed over the years and showcases a lot of the plants available at the Nursery in their natural setting.

So now that spring has arrived, why not celebrate with a trip to Bordervale Plants to see what is on offer.

### **Bordervale Plants Opening Times**

**March-Sept – Fri, Sat, Sun, BHMons 10-5  
Often open Mon-Thurs**

#### **Garden Opening Times:**

**Mid-May to end September  
(small fee)**

**Also open for the National Garden  
Scheme**

**Please see website:**

**[www.bordervale.co.uk](http://www.bordervale.co.uk)/[www.icehaus.co.uk](http://www.icehaus.co.uk)**

**Tel. 01446 774036**

## **Tidy Plots Allotments**

Just past the Highgrove estate, on the opposite side of Sandy Lane, you may have spotted a series of allotments. This is **Tidy Plots Allotments**, an initiative started by Alun and Norman Jenkins. Their family has farmed in the Vale since the

Middle Ages or before. These owners of Talyfan Farm are descended from farmers, butchers and Welsh drovers. Tom Jenkins, having moved to Ystradowen in 1921, was followed by his son Norman Jenkins Senior, who in turn was followed by Alun and Norman, whose mother was also from a very old Vale family.

Brought up on a mixed farm and having been trained on both horses and tractors, Alun and Norman developed a large pedigree Holstein Friesian dairy herd. They dispersed this herd in 1995 and following the BSE (mad cow disease crisis) set up a high quality pedigree Aberdeen Angus herd. In 2010, they diversified into **Tidy Plots Allotments**.

The allotment site has good soil, on-site water supply, and is close to the road and village. All plots can be pre-tilled if required and a large supply of farmyard manure is available. So all you need for enjoying the country experience. If you fancy taking on the challenge of an allotment, growing your own fruit, vegetables or flowers, and wish to savour the wonderful outdoors our village has to offer, do get in touch with **Norman Jenkins on 01446 774036, Email: [tidyplots@gmail.com](mailto:tidyplots@gmail.com) or pop in to Bordervale Plants for further information.**

## **WHAT'S ON IN YSTRADOWEN AND SURROUNDING AREA?**

### **YSTRADOWEN COMMUNITY AND SPORTS ASSOCIATION (YCSA)**

The YCSA is a small group of volunteers who run the village hall, organise events to bring the community together for a bit of fun, and bring you this newsletter. New members and new ideas are vital if the events are to reflect the needs of villagers and their families. So new members are always welcome. **The next YCSA committee meeting is Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017 6pm – 7.30pm.**

**Contact: Chris Kipling (772726), Rod Howells (771206), Tony Williams (775420).**

The social calendar for 2017 is now underway. On Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April, the YCSA hosted a **Quiz Evening & Ploughman's Supper** with over 40 villagers in attendance. Congratulations to the Badgers Brook Buddies for their convincing win, and a huge thanks to Richard and Caroline, the quiz masters. So to join in with the fun, please save the following dates in your diaries:

- ❖ **Sat 24<sup>th</sup> June YCSA Skittles Evening and BBQ.**
- ❖ **Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Sept - 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Village Hall celebrations – an exciting weekend for all the family.**
- ❖ **Sat 4<sup>th</sup> November – Annual Fireworks Display.**
- ❖ **Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> December – Children's Christmas Party (lunchtime) followed by the Lighting of the Village Christmas Tree – (early evening).**
- ❖ **Mon 4<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas event for Senior Citizens.**

### **30<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS**

September 2017 marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the village hall. The YCSA are busy organising a fabulous weekend of festivities for everyone on Sat 16<sup>th</sup> September. If you want to get involved, please contact the Corinne Roberts (772930) or Keris Howard (775640).

**WANTED:** The autumn edition of the village newsletter will be celebrating 30 years since the opening of the village hall. If you would like to contribute, please send your reflections/stories in to the editorial team at [ystradnews@gmail.com](mailto:ystradnews@gmail.com)

### **Tiny Tots Yoga**

New term starting on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April. Have fun with your toddler – active class that is toddler led. Encourages your toddler to move around! Yoga story, songs and parachute included. Session followed by playtime, tea/coffee, and bubbles.

Suitable from 9-10 months old to pre-school. Booking essential. Limited spaces.

Contact: Michelle Lewis – 07861 873588

### **Brownies**

It has been a packed term again for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Cowbridge Brownie pack since Christmas. The pack consists of twenty-four, seven to ten year olds which meet every Monday at Ystradowen village hall. We have enjoyed a variety of activities, all aimed at encouraging team work, good self-esteem, a sense of community, support for your friends, and belief in yourself to achieve beyond expectations.

A special day in the Girl Guiding calendar is the 22<sup>nd</sup> February which is World Thinking Day. This annual event aims to increase understanding about Girl Guiding as a worldwide organisation, and its role in supporting girls and young women across the globe, and that membership should be available for all who wish to join. To celebrate, we had a "bring a friend to Brownies" night and opened our doors to an extra 11 girls and lots of cuddly toys who shared the fun that Brownies can bring.

We have learnt lots of new skills this term. We have learnt how to use hand bells to create beautiful music. Gill came along to one of our meetings and we all loved using her shiny bells to play some wonderful tunes. We also got messy making bird cake. We have learnt about the 'Eat Well Plate' and what foods should be eaten in what quantities. The girls loved this session which was run by Charlotte, one of our young leaders, who is working towards her Duke of Edinburgh award. The rice cake faces to take home were a bonus!

We've dressed up in recycled items, made Easter bunnies and undertaken scavenger hunts. We have also worked hard to gain two badges. So a fun filled term I think we would all agree. We have made full use of the great facilities in Ystradowen village hall and the fantastic outdoor space surrounding it.

### *Brown Owl*

Girl Guiding is available to all girls and young women aged 5-25, for more information please see [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk) The 3<sup>rd</sup> Cowbridge Brownies meet on Monday nights in Ystradowen Village Hall 6-7.30pm. For more information, please contact Brown Owl a.k.a. Sarah Penketh (07717718410).

### **Rendezvous Club**

Are you 50+ with some spare time to socialise with like-minded people? The Rendezvous Club meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month for lunch (various venues), also occasional theatre trips and events in the village (e.g. guest speakers, quizzes etc). If you are interesting in joining us, please contact the Secretary, Paddy Kelly – 775377.

### **WOMEN'S INSTITUTE (WI)**

We are a friendly club of 30+ members who meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in the village hall. We have guest speakers, walks, coffee mornings and a range of other activities – definitely NOT 'Jam and Jerusalem!' We would be delighted to welcome you to our fold. Please contact the Bab Richards (Secretary – 775256) or Jan Foyle (President – 774362).

### **Sewing Group**

The sewing group **Cutting Edge Textiles** meets in the village hall on the **second Tuesday of each month 10.00 til 3.00pm. For more information,** contact Monica Dennis on 07811 159 800 [mdennis.wales@gmail.com](mailto:mdennis.wales@gmail.com).

**Glamorgan Quilters** also meet in the hall on the second Saturday of each month 10.00 till 3.00pm.

Please contact Corinne Roberts on 01446 772930 or email [glamquilt@gmail.com](mailto:glamquilt@gmail.com)

Note: there is a waiting list to join these groups but you can come as a visitor for £5.00. Both groups have blogs if you want to see what we get up to!

**With Music in Mind** is a community interest company that runs singing and social groups for people over the age of 50. We have been running in Cowbridge since September 2015 on a Friday morning in the Duke of Wellington pub (10:30 - 12:30). We start each session with an hour of group singing led by a musical director, followed by a cup of tea / coffee and refreshments and then we have a social activity. These include talks from outside speakers, quizzes, mini performances, hand massage or simply just chatting and catching up with each other.

Benefits of attending include increased confidence, reduced loneliness/social isolation, improved wellbeing and reduced stress. The cost is £4 per session to attend (first session is free) and this covers the singing, refreshments and social activity. Our existing members tell us that they love coming for the singing and variety of songs, and for the relaxed, no-pressure atmosphere. Anyone over the age of 50 is welcome to come and sing with us (you don't need singing experience or even to be able to sing - we're not a choir!) We occasionally go out and perform for others, such as care homes / other social groups / conferences but there is no pressure to do this if you just want to come along on Friday mornings! For more information, please contact Sarah Miles (07500 776295), Email: [info@withmusicinmind.co.uk](mailto:info@withmusicinmind.co.uk) Web: [www.withmusicinmind.co.uk](http://www.withmusicinmind.co.uk)

**Calling all Millennials** - OK. So this newsletter is not Snapchat, but we'd really like you to share your news with us. We are looking for anyone in Years 7-13 to join the editorial team. If interested, please contact the Editor or email [ystradnews@gmail.com](mailto:ystradnews@gmail.com) (BTW - it would look good on those CVs and UCAS forms).

## YSTRADOWEN VILLAGE HALL

To book the hall, please ring 01446 772 726. For more information about the activities, please contact the group organiser directly on the numbers below.

Brownies – 01446 773918  
Cowbridge Judo Club – 07549 100403  
Whist – 01446 772481  
Vale Photographic Club – 01446 772672  
Pilates – 029 20813696  
Yoga – 01446 623595  
Tiny Tots Yoga – 07861 873588  
Keep Fit Dance – 07867988068  
Ballroom Dancing – 01443 238867  
Lace Group – 01446 793778  
Glamorgan Quilters – 07811 159800  
Craft Group – 01446 793 778  
Cutting Edge Textiles – 07811 159800  
Rendezvous Club – 01446 775377  
Women's Institute – 01446 774362

### Anyone for judo, yoga or tennis?

**Cowbridge Judo Club** meet at Ystradowen Village Hall on Tuesday evenings from 6.30-8.30pm. Open to all ages range 5-70 (or older). For more information, contact Steve Cooper (07970223962) or [steveystradowen@btinternet.com](mailto:steveystradowen@btinternet.com)

A **yoga class** is held at the village hall every Monday evening from 8-9.15pm. Contact Rosalind for more details (01446 623595).

One of the suggestions made at the consultation event was to build a tennis court. Although this idea did not make it to the final bid, **Cowbridge Tennis Club** is a friendly, family-oriented tennis club located next to Cowbridge Leisure Centre which is always looking for new members of all ages and abilities. The Club recently celebrated the opening of its newly-laid courts and new floodlighting with a tournament with over 50 players participating. So whether you are 8 or 80, as the evenings grow lighter, and the new season

starts, why not reach for those tennis shoes and dust down that racket? There are men's, ladies, and youth teams, coaching for all abilities in the daytime and evenings, and social events. For more information, please contact resident coach, Ian Duggan, on 07919816609.

## NEWS FROM OUR LOCAL CHURCHES

### St Owain's CW Church, Ystradowen

At the heart of Ystradowen, you will find the village church of St. Owain's. The present church was built in 1867 to replace one that had existed since the 13<sup>th</sup> century. The congregation of St. Owain's meet weekly at **11am on Sundays for The Eucharist**. All are welcome, especially families. On the **first Sunday of the month at 11am, there is a Sunday School** for children. On the second Sunday of the month at 11am there is a Family Service/Morning Worship. On the fifth Sunday of the month, a joint service is held in one of the churches of the Benifice. A Church Supper is held on the third Wednesday of the month. All villagers are very welcome to join the vicar, curate and parishioners at a local Vale restaurant.

#### Easter Services at St. Owain's

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April - Easter Vigil – 8.30pm  
Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April, Easter Sunday- 11am.

For more information about the Parish, please do not hesitate to contact Sue Squire (775556) or Sheena Sargeant (774703). To keep up-to-date with events, you can subscribe to the Parish magazine for a small fee.

### Welsh St Donat's CW Church

We are a family-friendly, welcoming congregation located in the nearby village of Welsh St Donat's. Our weekly **Eucharist Service** takes place every Sunday at 9.30am (apart from the fifth Sunday of the month which is a joint East Vale service).

Our **Sunday club** provides fun hands on activities for children aged 0-12 to develop their understanding of Christianity and the Church at an

appropriate level. The children are then welcomed back into the service so we can receive communion as a church family.

On **Easter Sunday at Welsh St. Donat's** this year (16<sup>th</sup> April), we are holding an Easter event at 9.30am. Alongside our Easter Eucharist service there will be an Easter Egg hunt and Easter craft activities provided for children. Refreshments will be available afterwards. So if you are interested in joining a Church or you would like to introduce your children to Christianity why not come along and join us! For any further information please contact: [welshstdonatschurch@gmail.com](mailto:welshstdonatschurch@gmail.com)

### **All Hallows RC Church, School Rd, Miskin**

The parish of All Hallows, Miskin, serves Llantrisant and the surrounding area and includes parishioners from Ystradowen. The parish priest is Father Allan Davies-Hale. **Mass is at 6.30pm on Saturday evenings and 9.15am on Sunday mornings.** On Sundays, children can attend the Children's Liturgy (term time only). Mass is followed by tea/coffee and biscuits in the church hall. Reconciliation at All Hallows on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month from 10.15-11.15am.

#### **Holy Week and Easter Triduum 2017**

##### **Maundy Thursday**

7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper (St.Dyfrig's)

##### **Good Friday**

3pm Passion of Our Lord

##### **Holy Saturday**

8.30pm Easter Vigil

##### **Easter Sunday**

9.15am Mass

The parish has a folk group, choir, UCM, and a lively calendar of social events. The **Spring and Easter Craft and Vintage Fayre will take place on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April from 12-4pm** in the church hall. Tel: 01443 402439 (Father Allan). Email: [all\\_hallows@btinternet.com](mailto:all_hallows@btinternet.com)

### **Our Lady & St. Illtyd with St. Cadoc Parish**

The parish of Our Lady & St. Illtyd, Llantwit Major, and St. Cadoc, Cowbridge, serve the West Vale area. The parish priest is Rev. Fr. Mark J Rowles (01446 792381). Mass times are at 5.00pm on Saturday evenings at St. Cadoc, Cowbridge, and at 9am on Sundays at Our Lady and St. Illtyd, Llantwit Major. For more information, contact [westvalecatholicparish@btinternet.com](mailto:westvalecatholicparish@btinternet.com) or [www.westvalecatholics.org.uk](http://www.westvalecatholics.org.uk)

#### **Holy Week and the Sacred Triduum 2017**

##### **Maundy Thursday**

7.30pm Llantwit Major

##### **Good Friday**

3pm Cowbridge

##### **Easter Saturday Vigil**

8pm Llantwit Major

##### **Easter Sunday**

10am Cowbridge

**NEXT EDITION:** The summer edition of the Ystradowen village newsletter will be distributed at the end of June. Please send you news/stories/up-dates/reports to the Editor by 10th June 2017. If you would like to advertise your business in the next edition, please contact us at [ystradnews@gmail.com](mailto:ystradnews@gmail.com).