

Dolwyddelan Community Newsletter

Autumn

2026

Dolwyddelan Village Garden Association
82nd

Annual Show

05-09-26 @ 2 pm

Schedules for sale at
Gwydyr or the shop £2



Come and support



Contact the following for any information –

Bob Valintine 01690 750 205

Kirsty Jones 07703 834 322

mentersiabod@googlemail.com

Community Pavilion – Rear of Ysgol Dolwyddelan
Dolwyddelan, Conwy LL25 0SZ

Village Cinema

Gwyddelan Suite – 7.00pm

Forthcoming attractions

September 16th

October 21st

November 18th



**Available to hire by the day
from Menter Siabod at the Pavilion . . .**



Wheelchair – a donation

Marquees - £50 per day (plus £50 deposit)

Folding tables – free to locals

Carpet shampooer - £10 per day

Spot cleaner (good for stairs) - £5 per day

Pavilion and Gwyddelan Suite hire charges . . .

Organisation	Morning (up to 4hrs)	Afternoon (up to 4hrs)	Evening (up to 4hrs)	Full Day
Regular meetings (weekly/monthly) Local / Charity / Voluntary Organisations	£10	£10	£10	£25
One-off or occasional Local / Charity / Voluntary Organisations	£15	£15	£15	£35
Business	£25	£25	£25	£60
Use of Audio/Visual equipment is an additional charge of £5 per session				
Local / Charity / Voluntary Organisations (regular meetings) with less than 10 attendees will pay £1 per head per session up to 4 hours				

Any enquiries please contact . . .

Bob Valintine 01690 750 205

Kirsty Jones 07703 834 322

DOLWYDDELAN SHEEPDOG TRIALS

Locals - Friday, 25th September at 4.30
Saturday, 26th September from 9am till late.

Refreshments available.

Held on the field behind the Pavilion.



‘Dolwyddelan in Bloom’

We would like to thank all members and friends of ‘Dolwyddelan yn ei Blodau’ for their hard work during this spring and summer.

Weeding, planting, watering, litter picking, re-painting planters and benches. If there are flowers in public areas of Dolwyddelan, odds on, that is down to ‘Doli in Bloom.’

The team also held two successful fund raisers, a Vinted evening, the proceeds of which went to the Carnifal, and a Market stall which raised £194 towards Eurwyns memorial planters and plaques. We also had two generous donations of £20 each (included in the total).

To everyone who supports us **THANK YOU**

The Carnival Committee would like to thank . . .



ALFA, D&C Jones, Betws Motors and I.L.D Engineering for sponsoring the Carnival, as well as the Community Council and Dolwyddelan in Bloom, Menter Siabod, Griffiths Snooker and the W.I for their financial contributions. Thank you also to Brodwaith, Myfanwy for hosting the Vinted Night and Shaun for selling the calendars and to everyone else for their kind contributions and prizes.

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doorstep from our farm in Pont-y-Pant



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07534898468





MONDAY CRAFT GROUP

Every Monday 10.00 till 1.00

At a recent meeting, we had . . .



Emma – willow weaving • Ann – cross stitch • Teleri – knitting •
Cain – drawing • Vanda – quilting • Jon – painting sheep for a train
layout • Ali – altering a jacket • Debbie – beadwork • Shaun –
carding wool • Jane – weaving

If you would like to enjoy *your* craft with like-minded folk in a calm,
friendly environment, you will be made very welcome.

Tea / coffee provided (and sometimes cake and biscuits)
£1 donation

DOLWYDDELAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY



The Historical Society meetings start their new season in September.
Meetings held in the Gwyddelan Suite (I.T. Suite) behind Ysgol
Dolwyddelan, meetings start 7.00pm

Membership for a season £6/single or £10/couple.

Entrance fee is £1.50/per member or £3/visitor.

September 7th - William George Owen (1810-85), An Early Welsh
Civil Engineer, by David Elis Williams

October 5th - Beneath Our Feet (Metal Detectorist), by Elfyn Vaughn
Jones

November 2nd – Journalist Gareth Jones, 1905-1935, by Bob Morris

DOLWYDDELAN 2 – an online Facebook directory

Are you looking for a . . .

builder – cleaner – gardener – beauty therapist – odd jobber – driving
lessons – holistic therapist – window cleaner etc. etc.



Or nearby specialist shops and events.

Then look on Facebook for Dolwyddelan 2 . . .

. . . a page for businesses providing services to Dolwyddelan, whose
businesses aren't physically located in the village, or anyone holding
an event which is taking place outside of Dolwyddelan.

*Dolwyddelan events and businesses are of course free to advertise
on the main Dolwyddelan Facebook page.*

From our local correspondent . . .

Why Villages Matter More Than Ever

There was a time when everybody knew everybody. They also knew everybody's dog, what colour their curtains used to be and exactly whose sheep had escaped this week. While some of that may have been a little too much information, perhaps we've lost something rather important along the way.

Modern life has made it easier than ever to communicate with people on the other side of the world. Strangely, it's also made it easier to ignore the person living next door.

That's where villages like Dolwyddelan quietly come into their own.

A village isn't just a collection of houses with a (largely ignored) speed limit. It's a network of people who somehow manage to keep things going. Someone organises the events. Someone cuts the grass. Someone makes the tea. Someone unlocks the hall. Someone volunteers, often without anyone noticing, simply because they care.

Our local shop isn't just somewhere to buy milk when you've forgotten it in the supermarket. It's where news is exchanged, birthdays are remembered and friendly chats happen without anyone scheduling a meeting in Outlook first.

The same is true of our churches and chapel, the pub, clubs and community groups. They aren't simply buildings or organisations; they're places where friendships begin, where people rally round when times are difficult and where newcomers become neighbours.

The funny thing about belonging is that you can't buy it online, download it as an app or have it delivered the next day. It grows slowly, one conversation, one volunteer, one coffee, one laugh and one helping hand at a time.

Of course, village life isn't perfect. We all know that if you park in the wrong place, trim your hedge too enthusiastically, or your recycling escapes down the road on a windy Wednesday, the whole village may know before you've put the kettle on! But perhaps that's simply the flip side of people paying attention to one another.

Research consistently tells us that knowing our neighbours improves wellbeing, reduces loneliness and helps us feel safer. In other words, the secret to a happier life might not be another streaming subscription

- it might just be saying hello.

So next time you're passing through the village, pop into the shop, support a local event, call in at the pub, join a club, volunteer for an hour, or simply stop for a chat over the garden gate.



Because villages don't stay special by accident. They stay special because ordinary people keep doing small, kind, everyday things for one another.

And long may Dolwyddelan continue to do exactly that.

After all, where else can buying a pint of milk turn into a twenty-minute catch-up and three invitations to volunteer? Long may it last!

Lloyd C. Mason-Boardman

MONDAY CLUB

The Dolwyddelan Monday Club meets in The Pavillion on the third Monday of most months, the exceptions being July when we have an outing.

Our meetings start about 2 o'clock - and finish when we feel like it.

We often have a guest speaker, otherwise we entertain ourselves with a fun quiz or and a chat. In the past, our speakers have entertained us on such diverse subjects as wood turning, stump embroidery, Africa and the Men's Shed.

Tea and biscuits, friendship, a good natter and laughter are always the norm.

In the past our annual day trips out have included a boat excursion around Puffin Island, a visit to the 1950's Museum in Denbigh and a tour of Ynys Mon.

Newcomers are always made very welcome.

John Weedon.

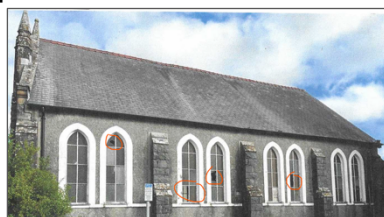
Latest News on Dolwyddelan's Historic Capel Bethel

Bethel Action Group (BAG) continue to remain in the hands of the Trustee's solicitor and their bank to access the deeds to the property. Valuable help has been received from a local solicitor who has volunteered to act on our behalf, however a productive response from the Trustees' solicitor has not been received to date.

In the meantime, BAG would like to illustrate the continued slow and costly deterioration of Capel Bethel. An obvious example are the windows. The following photographs show evidence of the damage caused to the windows since 2023 as compared with today. So many

more windows have been broken and worse still, are completely missing. These photographs only show the more noticeable deterioration. Behind the scenes there is more damage occurring in terms of interior weathering, structure and roof. At the very least, hoardings are necessary to both protect the windows that remain and preserve the interior. Without the authority to carry out such works our hands are tied.

Capel Bethel 2023:



Capel Bethel today:



Despite hold ups, BAG remain dedicated and focused on having this historic building restored, to create a community asset for the use and benefit of the Dolwyddelan community.

If you share our vision, please join us. We are looking for volunteers and donations. Maybe you would like to join us at the next group meeting? Please contact us:

BAG Secretary: Helena Wroblewska, 07828 761114,
Helena_w@btinternet.com

BAG Chairman: Richard Griffin, 07736 059925,
Richard_griffin@btinternet.com

BAG Treasurer: Jon Reynolds, 07722 040778,
Jon1reynolds@outlook.com

For further information:

Website: bethel-action-group.jimdosite.com

Facebook: Grŵp Bethel



AFTERNOON TEA

The Afternoon Tea, which was held at the Pavilion in August, was a great success. Thank you to everyone who attended. The homemade food was first class and plentiful – *most guests ended up taking home a 'doggy bag'!*

The Afternoon Tea team would like to thank the following for their generous donations towards the event . . .

Co-op, Blaenau Ffestiniog – Trish 'n Chips, Blaenau Ffestiniog –
Aldi, Llandudno – Co op, Llanrwst

The raffle, with a first prize of a hand turned cake stand made by Mark Woodward, made £41. The event made £263 in total, towards the running of Menter Siabod.

Many thanks to everyone for making this such a great success.
Look out for our next event in the New Year.



Dolwyddelan Community Council

Annual Report 2025/26

For a fuller version of this document, including the financial report, please visit dolwyddelancc.org.uk

We represent Dolwyddelan, Roman Bridge, Pont-y-Pant, and all the LL25 area of the Lledr Valley.

Your Clerk /Financial Officer / Burial Clerk is Simon Shutler.

Your Community Councillors for the year have been:

Chairperson: Carwyn L Price

Vice Chair: Mike Skerrett

County Councillor: Elizabeth Roberts

Kaya Musgrove / Connie Brewer / Iwan W Griffiths /

Edwin R. Noble / Teleri W Jones

As a Community Council we do our very best to do the following:

Represent and act as a voice for our communities / Work on behalf of local people to request that Conwy Council and other statutory bodies meet their duties and responsibilities in a way which satisfies the needs of Dolwyddelan residents / Influence, enable and support community groups / Apply for grants or sources of funding which support the vision and aims of the Community Council.

Village amenities that the Community Council monitor and manage, on behalf of the community are:

Bryn y Bedd Cemetery / Cenotaph / Public toilets /
Dog Bins / Bus Stop

Please note that the Community Council is NOT responsible for the following:

Roads / Highways / Planning / Waste / Rubbish Collections /
Council Housing and Benefits / Education and Schools

What your Community Council has been doing in 2025/26:

Bryn y Bedd Cemetery – During the year we have continued to make improvements to the cemetery. An inspection was carried out by One Voice Wales Biodiversity team in conjunction with the submission of the Community Council Biodiversity plan. The outcome was very positive and they have also donated some native trees and shrubs to help biodiversity. With the help of Dolwyddelan in Bloom these have been

planted. Work is continuing to make some headstones safe.

Biodiversity Plan - The plan can be viewed on the Community Council website. It is a requirement of all councils to have one.

Christmas Tree and Lights - The Community Council bought the Christmas Tree and Alfa kindly erected it and put up the lights. The Christmas Tree Committee arranged for mince pies and mulled wine for the adults and Father Christmas presented the children with gifts. Warming soup and a roll were also available provided in Y Gwydyr. We would like to thank all those who contributed to the successful event.

Warm Hub and Pensioners Lunches – Conwy Council through their Community Led Local Development grant have given money to establish a warm hub in Y Gwydyr over the winter. This was well attended and we wish to thank Y Gwydyr for their hard work in making this a possibility. Conwy Valley & North Wales Coast Community Railway Partnership granted some money to allow pensioners meals to be held monthly at the school, with the last one being held in May 2026. We are looking for funding to recommence this in autumn this year.

Public Toilets - Cuts by Conwy Council to public toilets, led to the public toilets being transferred to the Community Council during the pandemic. The maintenance of these now rests with the community Council.

Plastic Free - We are allies of the Plastic Free Betws and District group and work together to run events to raise awareness of opportunities to reduce or remove plastic in the area.

Defibrillators - in and around the village can be found at the Spar Shop and opposite Benar Terrace.

Dolwyddelan Hydro feasibility Study – Over the course of the year grants were received from Conwy Council Shared Prosperity Fund and Snowdonia National Park to conduct a feasibility study and commission reports to see if a local community hydro scheme would be possible. The results were that it would and a proposal is being introduced to the community for discussion on how to take the project forward for the benefit of the community.

Open for drinks noon till late, daily.

Food served Tuesday to Sunday

Walker and bikers very welcome.

Y GWYDYR HOTEL

At the heart ❤️ of . . .
Dolwyddelan LL25 0EJ

Dinner menu 17.00-20.30pm

Sunday Lunch 12.00-14.30pm

Thai meals by Namthip, every Wednesday 17.00-20.30pm

"Feel free to book a table, I cook from fresh ingredients."



Pre-booking recommended . . .

through Facebook/Y Gwydyr Hotel Dolwyddelan or Tel. 07464 710 257

Private catering available for parties and functions.

CHRISTMAS CARDS and CALENDARS

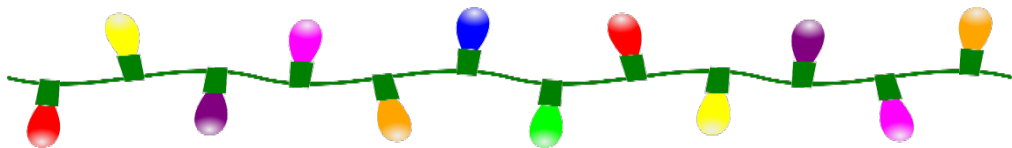
As well as calendars, there will also be Dolwyddelan Christmas cards for sale this year!

All profits to be equally divided between 'Ti a Fi' and Ysgol Dolwyddelan.

Watch out on the Dolwyddelan Facebook page, and wherever groups meet for the 'hard sell.'

Christmas cards will be ready soon, calendars in November.





Dolwyddelan Community Council

In conjunction with Y Gwydyr

Turning on of the Christmas Tree Lights

by Annie Atkins

Thursday 3 December at 6pm

Christmas Market from 5pm to 8pm

Carols with the Penmachno Brass Band

Mince Pies and mulled wine
Father Christmas





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Carrie & Mike look forward
 to welcoming you to



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For information - **Website:**
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