



# The Wolfwhistle

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*Serving the communities of Treffgarne, Wolfscastle, St Dogwells, Sealyham and Welsh Hook  
Papur Bro i Casblaidd, Trefgarn a Llantydewi*

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## **Giant-killers! Wolfscastle win Britain in Bloom gold again**

Once again Wolfscastle Residents are pleased to announce that they are the proud winners in the village category in this year's Britain in Bloom Competition.

The Award Ceremony was held at the Waterfront, Belfast, and was attended by representatives of the Wolfscastle in Bloom Committee. The Committee are grateful for the generous sponsorship received to fund the attendees to fly from Cardiff and to stay in Belfast for the Ceremony.

Revd Geoffrey Eynon said that "we are delighted that we won the gold award once again. It's a huge achievement for such a small community to receive such an accolade against villages with much larger populations."

### **JUDGES REPORT**

Between Haverfordwest and Fishguard on the A40 road in rural Pembrokeshire, lies the small historic village of Wolfscastle. In the lea of the surrounding hills between the rivers Cleddau and Anghof, the village has an in-built charm and beauty that attracts visitors and new residents alike.

The work of the Bloom group has not only improved what nature has provide but has empowered everyone in the village to

feel part of a caring society. Their work has led to considerable success at both regional and national levels, but that pales into insignificance compared with the greater feeling of wellbeing that you get when visiting.

The judges' visit was a humbling experience to witness such community spirit, and to share in your success is an absolute privilege.

The floral features at the Nant-y-Coy Mill enhanced this historic feature and were appropriate to its rural location. It was good to see that the plants were grown and cultivated on site.

There was evidence of good horticultural practice and maintenance throughout the judging tour.

The residential gardens throughout the village were all maintained to a high standard, with a good mixture of both seasonal and permanent planting.

The floral displays at Wolfscastle Country Hotel were both eye-catching and unusual. It was good to see both permanent and seasonal planting used together.

The use of *Lysimachia* (creeping jenny) in many of the troughs and baskets works very well in trailing over the sides softening the planting schemes.

The judges felt that some additional height was required in the WI Beds, perhaps by the use of one or two specimen or dot plants, even groupings of pollinators such as *Cosmos* or *Verbena bonariensis* would lift the planting giving it more impact.

Consider some wildflower planting along the gateway features on the main road and on the grassed area near to the river bridge.

The baskets at the Wolfe Inn were a little tired, perhaps the inclusion of a little liquid feed would have helped extend their season into late summer.

The grassed area at the top of the village was a little unkempt in places. Perhaps this is an area where improvements could be made.

Regular litter picking carried out by the Wolfscastle in Bloom Youth Group is a great example of how young people can get involved, their enthusiasm is to be applauded.

The work of the junior school children and their Eco Council have helped them learn about the importance of resource management in a local community, as well as the damaging impact that plastics can have on the local environment.

There was no evidence of litter, graffiti or dog fouling, pride of place was clearly evident throughout the judging tour.

The appropriate artwork on the various garage walls in the village was tastefully done.

The community composting bin was obviously well used and an important source of organic material for use in the planting schemes.

The use of the old redundant telephone box as a community mini-library is a good use of this redundant feature.

Given the rural location, you may wish to consider further tree planting perhaps the inclusion of some heritage fruit trees in suitable locations.

The interpretation boards at the Nant-y-Coy Mill are starting to become a little dated, however the judges appreciate that improvement works on this site are ongoing.

The presentation at the start of the judging tour, gave a very good insight into the year round achievements of the group, and set the scene for the judging tour.

Wolfwhistle magazine is a great way of engaging with everyone in the village and promoting the Bloom campaign and Bloom activities.

The judges enjoyed meeting the schoolchildren, both past and present, and to see the various projects they are working on, in particular conservation and resource management.

The tour finale at Ysgol Casblaidd was something to be treasured – to get one or two children in to meet the judges out of term is an achievement, but to get most of the school in was unbelievable, congratulations to all involved especially Wendy Raymond.

The Wolfscastle in Bloom Youth Group obviously have a lot of enthusiasm and energy, this needs encouraging as they will become the future drivers of change in the village.

After a sustained level of entry and considerable success in all levels of the competition it may be prudent to consider the development of a plan for the future development of the groups' activities.

## **Wolfscastle remembers**

Guests, Staff, Pupils, Parents and Friends of Wolfscastle School, met today at the Memorial Plaque to commemorate 100 years since the end of World War 1.

The service was conducted by Revd Geoffrey Eynon who welcomed all that had gathered for this very moving tribute to those who gave their lives in World Wars and Conflicts ever since.

Following a reading and a prayer, Revd Eynon led the Act of Remembrance and the Last Post was played by Ianto Evans, one of the School Pupils. A two minute silence was observed and the Kohima Epitaph was read by Mrs Wendy Raymond, Headteacher of the School.

The pupils sang 'Cân y Cofio' whilst Poppy Wreaths were laid. Mr Jamie Lewis, Deputy Lieutenant of Dyfed, laid the first

wreath, followed by Cllr Aiden Brinn, Chairman of Pembrokeshire County Council. Cllr Barrie Griffiths, Chairman of Wolfscastle Community Council laid a wreath on behalf of the community.

School pupils then had their opportunity to pay their tribute by laying a wreath and poppies. Representing the school pupils were Megan Miles, Ester Thomas, Seren Lewis, Elis Thomas, Carys Bateman, Charlie Kenniford and Lois Morris.

The Standard Bearer during the Ceremony was Mr David Lloyd, Haverfordwest, also present was Mr Gwilym Price, Fishguard.

Revd Eynon thanked the pupils, staff and guests for taking time out from their busy schedule to be a part of this ceremony that is held annually at the School.

## Christmas activities in Wolfscastle

The Christmas Service at Penybont this year will be held on Sunday evening 23rd December at 6.30 p.m. the Greatest Story on Earth being re-enacted by the pupils of the Sunday School.

The Congregation will then make their way into the Chapel where the story will continue to be told. An opportunity will be had during the service to sing a number of Carols with the help of the Sunday School pupils. As the service will commence outside, please ensure that you wrap up well, and please bring torches with you.



## Community open air carols and readings

On Thursday 20 December at 7:00p.m., a Community Open Air and Carol Singing evening will be held at Nant y Coy Mill, by kind permission of Mr & Mrs Robin James and Family.

Representatives from the Churches and each organisation within the community will be invited to take part. Musical accompaniment will be provided by members of Goodwick Brass Band.

The evening will end with mulled wine and mince pies and bara brith. There will be no charge for the evening, but it is hoped that donations will be made to meet the costs of the evening, and any surplus monies will be given to a local charity.

Please ensure that you dress up in warm clothing, and if possible share transport as there is only limited parking in the adjoining lay-by.

## Ysgol Casblaidd

Gwobr Shwmae



The pupils and staff were delighted to win the Pembrokeshire Primary Schools award at this year's Gwobrau Shwmae recently held at Pembrokeshire College. Ysgol Casblaidd was awarded the prize for our excellent efforts to gain the bronze award in the Siarter Iaith initiative and for our ethos in fostering a pride in the Welsh language within the school. Our Criw Cymraeg Megan, Lexy, Lowri and Gethin were delighted to attend the ceremony and to receive the award on behalf of the school. We look forward to gaining the silver award within the Siarter iaith programme in the Summer.

We have also recently been presented with a welsh medium yoga board for the pupils to enjoy yoga sessions on the school yard. The board was won a part of a competition for Pembrokeshire primary schools to produce a video of a yoga session.

## **Evacuee Experience**

As part of our studies on the Blitz in World War 2 the whole school had a day trip as evacuees, land girls and gentry. The day began with pupils arriving early to school dressed as evacuees with gas mask boxes and brown suitcases. Some carried teddies and letters from home. Our billeting officer Rev Richard Davies. announced to the school that we were to be evacuated to Carmarthenshire due to the danger of having the railway through the village. "Lady Raymond" from the manor organised a bus to the local station at Haverfordwest and with heavy hearts many parents waved us off on our journey to Whitland. From Whitland we journeyed by bus to the war museum at Carew Cheriton. The pupils had a wonderful day with the dedicated crew of volunteers at the museum dressing up in war time uniforms, sending morse code messages looking at the vast amount of war memorabilia on display and listening to the animated stories of how the war affected the residents especially the children of Pembrokeshire.

## **Community Governor**

Ysgol Casblaidd Governing Body has a vacancy for a community governor. This position is open to any person living in the community of Wolfscastle, Welsh Hook or Treffgarne.

A school governor is a voluntary position.

The Governing Body have 4 meetings a year. There are also termly meetings for sub committees which governors may choose to be a part of.

Governors have responsibility for the high standards of education and welfare of the pupils and the conduct of their school. They are responsible for monitoring the school budget, health and safety issues and curriculum and staffing. Being a governor is a rewarding and challenging position, guidance and support is provided by the school, Governing Body and the Local Authority.

If you are interested in joining our governing body to support our successful community school there is information available on the PCC website or please feel free to contact Mrs Raymond the Headteacher 01437741361, Mr Steve Maycock our Chair of Governors or any member of the Governing Body. Application forms can be filled in online or a brief covering letter may be sent to Ysgol Casblaidd, Casblaidd, Haverfordwest, SA62 5LZ

The closing date for applications is Friday January 11<sup>th</sup>.

## **Parents & Friends Committee**

The committee would like to thank the community for their donations to our Bags2school fundraiser last month. With your contributions the school has received nearly £400 towards school funds.

Our Christmas fundraiser is a grand raffle which will be drawn at the end of this term. Prizes include Christmas hampers prepared by the parents. If you would like to purchase a ticket priced £1 each please see any of our parents or contact the school on 01437741361.

## **Penybont Chapel Sisterhood**

Sisterhood meetings resumed after the summer break with the AGM on 18 October.

At the meeting, the following were elected:

President, Mrs. Betty John; Vice\_President, Mrs. Della Harris; Secretary/Treasurer, Mrs. Barbara Jones.

Organist, Mrs. Barbara Jones

The members of the Sisterhood have donated new tablecloths for the refurbished vestry.

At the November meeting, members were given an interesting and informative talk by Mrs. Judith Harper on security, frauds and scams in banking and how to avoid them.

Sisterhood meetings are normally held on the third Thursday of each month.

Details of speakers etc. are announced during the chapel services.

New members are always welcome; please contact Barbara Jones on 01348 841088.

## **Wolfscastle WI**

Our October meeting was an Open Meeting where several non-members attended and very much enjoyed the floral art demonstration using, among other things, pumpkins as a base for the flowers.

Three of the arrangements were donated to the Institute. These were used at our Coffee Morning as raffle prizes.

The coffee morning was very successful with a display of documents relating to Womens Suffrage as well as hot toasted teacakes with tea or coffee, and fresh Welsh cakes.

The money raised went to support the Womens Refuge. There was also a large collection of items given to the Refuge.

These to be handed over with the cheque to an official representative.

Our November meeting included reports of the year from the Treasurer, the Secretary and the President.

Members were asked to suggest possible speakers for next year's programme. Election of officers – Ann was returned as President, Pat will take over as Minute Secretary and Allison will arrange the programme.

We had a table at Letterston Fair which was financially very worthwhile as well as being very enjoyable.

For December we will be learning how to make beaded decorations, as well as a visit from Secret Santa.

Our Christmas Dinner will be in January in place of our normal meeting, and will be in The Pump on the Green.

At the moment Alison is working on the programme for 2019. Posters of meetings will be displayed in the village as and when appropriate. Full details will be in the next issue of the Wolfwhistle.

## Wolfscastle Over 60s Club

The Christmas lunch was held at Newport Golf Club on 5 December and details will be in our first New Year report.

The club meets on the first Wednesday of each month in the Penybont Chapel Vestry starting at 2 p.m.

Anyone interested in becoming a member should contact the Chairman, Paul Hart, on 01348 840607.

## VILLAGE PEOPLE from Elfeira Harries

**Special birthday congratulations** to Mrs Dilys Symmonds of Bryn Gomer who celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on 30 November.

Llongyfarchiadau Dannie, Gwynos ar ennill gwobr shwmae Sir Benfro am ei chyfraniad gyda dysgwr y Sir. Hefyd i Ysgol Casblaidd yn ennill gwobr efydd y siarter iaith a gwobr shwmae ysgolion cynradd iaith cyntaf am hybu iaith yn yr ysgol.

**Congratulations** to Jonathan Morgan of Little Treffgarne on winning the crown at the county YFC eisteddfod recently.

**Congratulations** also to grandfather Wyn Raymond, great grandmother Mary Thorne and great grandparents Cynthia and Basil Raymond on the birth of Ellis Wyn Jones to Hayley and Gareth.

**Happy retirement** to Heather and Kevin Rees who are both leaving their posts at Wityhush Hospital in December.

**Sympathy** is extended to Mrs Martine Watson on the loss of her brother in France. Also to Mrs Fern Price and family on the sudden death of husband John, a much respected member of the community.

**Happy 70th birthday** in December to Mrs Cynthia Griffiths.

**Congratulations** to Barbara and Teifryn Williams of St Dogwells on the birth of their first grandchild, Marnie-Rose, to son Ryan and partner Abby.

## TREFFGARNE NEWS from Pat Griffiths

Welcome to Treffgarne to Cath and Matthew Freeman who have moved into 16 Meadow Park.

**Sincere condolences** are sent to Lynne and Robin Jones, Airton House, and their daughters Nia and Heledd (and families), following the tragic loss of son Owain. Sympathy is sent from friends and all the village as well as the wider communities.

### Cheese and Wine Evening

The postponed Cheese and Wine fundraiser for the Hall is hoped to take place in January.

Those who have already bought tickets will be notified and further tickets will be available to those who we were unable to get to originally.

The Christmas Fair held in the hall on 17 November has raised approximately £450 for Church funds.

### Christmas Carol Service

7 Lessons and Carols service will take place in St Michaels on 16 December at 6pm. Service will be followed by seasonal refreshments. **Please note** There will be NO 9am service on that day.

## **Bonus Ball**

September: G. Stubbs, S.Bradbury, M.Hannah,  
L.Fudge, B.Griffiths

October: E.Bradbury, E.Sherwood,  
J.Wilkins, L.Evans

November: B.Sherwood (x2), M.Coneybeare,  
L.Williams

And finally.....

**Congratulations** to Eliza Bradbury, Hen Dderwen, who recently took part in the Valero Music Competition. She was successful in gaining 2<sup>nd</sup> place in

Instrumental Duet, 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Harp and Piano grade 4 and the Spittal Ensemble (of which Eliza is part) were highly commended. A good day all round Eliza, well done

18<sup>th</sup> birthday congratulations to Carwyn Davies Mount Pleasant and 60<sup>th</sup> birthday congratulations to his dad Haydn Davies

## **Church Services:**

### **St Dogwells:**

**24 December** (Christmas Eve) Holy Communion at 6.30 p.m. with refreshments to follow.

### **Treffgarne Church**

**Sunday 16 December** Service of 7 lessons and carols at 6 p.m. Please note NO 9 a.m. service that day.

**Tuesday 25 December** (Christmas Day) 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion.

## **Country hotel delights**

Wolfscastle Country Hotel's new spa now offers the services of a reflexologist and the first treatment of 30 minutes is just £20.

Call the hotel on 01437 741225 to book your appointment.

Meanwhile, the hotel is offering its attractive lunches and teas throughout December.

The two-course lunches are £15.50 and three-courses come at £19.50.

There are vegetarian, gluten free, dairy free and vegan variations and all menus include the popular traditional Christmas favourites of Pembrokeshire turkey and Christmas pudding

Here again, call the hotel on the number above to secure your booking.

## **House to Let**

A 2-bedroom house situated under the Vestry in Wolfscastle has become vacant and will be ready to let early in the new year. If anyone is interested, please get in touch with one of the Officers of the Church.



**Christmas greetings to all our readers.  
Wishing you a Very Happy New Year!**

News and views are always welcome. Send us an e-mail including your address and phone number to Editor John Roche on 01348 840234 or [jaroche1@aol.com](mailto:jaroche1@aol.com)

**\* Next issue planned for March**

Each Wolfwhistle issue costs about £50 to produce so any offers of sponsorship are always welcome.

