

THE NARTH AND DISTRICT NEWSLETTER: November 2019

CHRISTMAS IS COMING

I realise November seems a bit early to mention Christmas, but several special Christmas events will be taking place and this will be the last newsletter of 2019. So, first of all, a very merry festive season to all Narth and District residents and the hope that 2020 will be peaceful and happy for all of us.

Secondly, thanks to all of you who come along to events and activities at the Village Hall. Without your support the Hall could not continue to operate. Particular thanks are due to all those who organise events and activities, making the Hall a focal point for the village and raising funds to keep it operating. If you haven't attended an event/activity this year, make 2020 the year you get involved, or come to one of these super Christmas events:

* **GLADE TAVERN CHRISTMAS PARTY from 7 pm on Friday, December 6th.** Festive food will be available; proceeds going to the Cystic Fibrosis charity. The Black Pearls will be performing live also.

* **NARTH SINGERS CHRISTMAS CONCERT: 7.30 pm, Wednesday 11th December,** St Nicholas Church, Trelleck - free admission. Join local residents and the choir in a musical start to the Christmas season. There will be a retiring collection for the Lymphoma Action charity.

* **VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS TRIALS, 3-5 pm 14th December.** Your chance to experience an authentic re-enactment of a Victorian court. Come dressed in Victorian costume (just a hat is fine) to add to the atmosphere. Tickets: £5 with proceeds split between the Alzheimer's Association and the Hall. Book via Sue on 01600 860373 or the booking form on the Hall website. Doors open 2.30.

* **CHRISTMAS CARDS, 10-12 am, 15th December.** Bring along your local Christmas cards to be delivered by volunteers to residents of The Narth, Penyfan and Maryland. Donations requested. Refreshments will be available.

* **CHRISTMAS CAROLS, 4.30-5.30 pm, 15th December.** Wye Valley Women are organising this festive event followed by refreshments. Come along and celebrate with Christmas songs old and new. Santa will be visiting also. Free entry.

COMMITTEE CHANGES

Thanks to all of you who turned up to the AGM to review the Hall Committee's activities in 2019 to ensure the Hall continues to provide a focal point for the village. The Committee was delighted to welcome three new members: Lisa Dorel; Maria Ricketts and Rachel Widdicks. Thanks were extended to Sue Flower for her many years involvement in the Committee.

KEEP THE 65 BUS RUNNING

As most residents know, the 65 bus which serves local villages was nearly lost. Only a concerted

campaign ensured the importance of the service was noted by the company and the County Council. Many congratulations are due especially to Jane Gilliard, Brian Mahony and Rosemary Thomas for their hard work to achieve this success. Do try to make at least one trip by bus, each week, next year to ensure the passenger numbers prove the need.

Remember you need to renew your bus pass by 31st December by visiting Monmouth or Chepstow Library or emailing: www.tfw.gov.wales/travelcards. If you have problems doing either, contact one of the Committee.

HELP RNIB BY SAVING STAMPS

At Christmas we often receive letters and cards with stamps attached. Jane Gilliard collects these to raise funds for the Royal National Institute of Blind People. To donate stamps, remove them from the envelope leaving 1 cm of paper around. Separate out overseas stamps, place them in an envelope or bag, then leave them in the postbox by the gate of Greenway, next to the Village Hall.

FEEDBACK ON RECENT EVENTS

Glade Tavern: Another successful evening was held in October with Mexican food providing a tasty addition. November was also well attended, providing an enjoyable antidote to the winter weather. Great thanks are due to the Glade Tavern Team for organising these evenings and to the volunteers who help set up and clear up.

Village Walks: Thanks again to Brian Mahony for organising the two Autumn walks, introducing residents to some of the lovely footpaths in the locality and to all the helpers for the delicious refreshments.

Film Night: Thanks to Marilyn Dunkelman for organising these film nights and to linking these with the Penallt Hall, so a wider variety of often more unusual films are available locally.

Quiz and Curry Night: Many thanks are due to Helen King for the organisation of this great evening and to Sue Flower for the wonderful food which accompanied it. A super time was had by all; winning doesn't matter - taking part is everything!

Invisible Woman: Many thanks again to Steve Dix for organising these events, funded by the Welsh Arts Council. The funny and thought provoking play was much enjoyed and it is great to have such good drama on our doorsteps.

100 CLUB WINNERS

October: 1st prize: Tina Chapman; 2nd prize: Kay Bowen. **November:** 1st prize: Glyn Parsons, 2nd prize: Gordon Casson.

To join the 100 Club which raises funds for the Hall, complete an application form online or via one of the Committee.

OIL DISCOUNT GROUP SAVES YOU MONEY

For only £8 pa, which goes to the Hall, you can save approximately £15 on a delivery of 500 litres. Contact Larry Stoter on answerphone 861836

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

(Further details are on the Village Hall website)

* **GLADE TAVERN; first Friday of each month.**

We always welcome more help with the clear up; 45 minutes on a Saturday morning once or twice a year is very little to keep this great event going. So, make 2020 the year you become a GT Clear Up Volunteer. Contact Nikki Godfrey (Group Lists) if you can help.

There will be one charity night in 2020. If residents wish to provide food at a Tavern evening to raise money for a favourite charity, ideas should be submitted to the Secretary of the Hall Committee by 31st January. The Glade Tavern Team and the Committee will then decide which idea will be supported.

* **FILMS ON THE NARTH AND PENALLT**

All start at 7.30, alternately in The Narth Village Hall or Pelham Hall, Penallt. Licensed bars at both.

6th December: *Fishermans' Friends* (Penallt)
Cornish fishermen's top 10 hit of sea shanties.

10th January: *Blinded by the Light* (Narth).
Comedy drama, coming of age in UK in 1987

* **WYE VALLEY WOMEN**

19th November at 7.30 pm: The Science of Forensics.

17th December: Christmas lunch

There will also be a December visit to Tredegar House, walks, reading groups, Xmas wreath workshops etc. See website for full details.

* **GARDEN CLUB**

26th November at 2.30 pm. Debbie Devauden will be talking on **Historical Botanic Art**. Refreshments available.

2020 EVENTS

* **22nd February - MABON.** This popular group will be bringing their wonderful music to us again. Remember to book early via Stephen Dix on 860664 or stephen.dix@live.co.uk

* **DAWN CHORUS WALK, 8th March at 6 am.** The Footpath Group will have a local birding expert to lead this walk. £10 includes continental breakfast. If interested, email Jane : the_gilliards@hotmail.com or phone 861974.

BOOKING THE VILLAGE HALL

Residents' private parties - £10/hour or £75 for a 24 hour period. Local groups - £7.50/hour. Other groups on application. Contact Sue on 860373 or Marilyn on 860031 or use our online booking enquiry form on the website. Full booking conditions are on the Village Hall website: www.thenarthhall.org.uk

NEWSLETTERS

To publicise a village event, please contact Pam

Manfield on Pamela.Manfield@gmail.com or phone 861836 (answerphone). **The deadline for the next edition is Friday 10th January 2020, but please try to get items in as soon as possible.**

VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

Clark Atkinson wenandclark@gmail.com
Wendy Atkinson wenandclark@gmail.com
Stephen Dix 860664
Lisa Dorel 860449
Marilyn Dunkelman (Treasurer)
marilyn@thebeechesthenarth.org.uk

Sue Goodlass 860373
Pam Manfield (Secretary) answerphone: 861836
Gwen Reid 860346
Maria Ricketts 869171
Larry Stoter (Chair & TUC rep) 861836
Rachel Widdicks 869142

The Committee can also be contacted via the *Contact Us* form on www.thenarthhall.org.uk

VILLAGE ACTIVITIES & GROUPS

Discount Oil Buying Group: save money on fuel.

Films at The Narth and Penallt: usually every second and fourth Friday at 7.30 pm. Contact Marilyn (The Narth) on 860031 or David May (Penallt) via email david@themays.org.uk

Footpaths Project: monthly maintenance group, as well as special work parties, to maintain and enhance local footpaths. Contact Brian Mahony on 860199

Garden Club: usually last Tuesday of the month, plus visits away. Contact Wendy Hill on 860121

The Glade Tavern: Your local pop-up pub; 7 pm on the first Friday of the month. Contact nikkigodfrey@mayphil.com

Ladies Keep Fit: Mondays at 10 am. Contact Lucia Ashton on 07735 221928

Local Links Club: for over 50s; 1.30-3.30 pm on Wednesdays.

The Narth Singers: 7.30 pm on Wednesdays. Contact Alan and Jean Francis on 01600 716189 or dousland@googlemail.com

Table Tennis: 5.30 pm on Tuesdays. Contact Steve Widdicks on 869142

Tai Chi: classes every fortnight on Sundays at 10.30 am and practice sessions on Mondays at 7.15 in the week between. Contact Simon 07813 104468 or email: simonjones01@hotmail.com

Whist Drive: every 3rd Friday at 7.30 pm. Contact Kay Bowen on 860594

Wild Tots: Nature-based activities for children. Dates via Facebook "Wild Tots in Manor Woods".

Wye Valley Women: 7.30 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month (except June, July, December). Contact Jane Gilliard (861974) or email: wyevalleywomen1@gmail.com

Yoga: 10 am on Wednesdays. Contact Emily via yoga.emily@googlemail.com

Zumba: 7 pm, Thursdays. Contact Nikki via: 07742 994540 or nikkireed.zumba@btinternet.com