

# Community News

Issue number 1

Spring 2006



## Chairman's Corner

Welcome to our first Community Newsletter, I hope you will enjoy reading it. This has been produced by the Community Council to share information on events and activities in our area.

The last twelve months has been a busy period for the Community Council. In June we bade farewell and good luck to Joe Hughes who had been our clerk for 20 years and welcomed Mrs. Sue Jones as his replacement and who has continued the excellent work. We are launching our own web site, which will provide lots of useful information about our communities. In November we celebrated the Bi-Centenary of the opening of Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, which was a great success. Commemorative coasters were presented to the junior children of the area.

After many years of trying we are pleased that the road widening at the bottom of Garth has been done which should be a big improvement. Three projects have had grants from us this year – Street Lighting in Froncysyllte, Toilet Facilities at Trevor Church and security lighting around the Garth & Trevor Community Centre.

I have now come to the end of my year as Chairman of the Community Council and would like to thank my fellow Councillors and Clerk for all their help and I wish the new Chairman a successful year.

*Joyce Evans*

*For free distribution in  
Fron, Garth & Trevor.*

**This is your Newsletter.** We need your news, diary dates, letters, photos and any comments on this newsletter to make the next issue of our Community News bigger and better. Send your news, letters and articles to Sue Jones Clerk to the council, 1 Ael Y Bryn, Llangollen Road, Trevor Llangollen. Telephone number 01978 810466 or email [clerk@llangollen-ruralcc.org](mailto:clerk@llangollen-ruralcc.org). Alternatively, drop off your items with any Community Councillor.

The next three newsletters will be available first week in June, September and December. These newsletters will not be delivered but you will be able to pick one up from your local Post Office, shop and the Community Centres.

## Council Web Site

The Community Council is proud to announce the launch of its very own web site – [llangollen-ruralcc.org](http://llangollen-ruralcc.org).

This has been developed by John Griffiths at the Telecottage to whom we are very grateful.

There is still some outstanding work to be done and any suggestions or contributions to it will be welcomed.

This newsletter can be viewed on the website. Please submit any information for the webpage to the Clerk Sue Jones at the address above.



The Rural Community Action programme is facilitated by the Welsh Development Agency, which is a Sponsored Body of the Welsh Assembly Government.  
Mae'r Cymdeithas yn gysylltu â'r Awdurdod Lleol a'r Gyngor Llywodraeth Cymru.  
Cwmni'r Cymdeithas yn gysylltu â'r Awdurdod Lleol a'r Gyngor Llywodraeth Cymru.



**Thanks to Northern Marches Cymru  
for funding the first edition of  
the Community News**

## Wall to be re-built.

The condition of the wall on Llangollen Road in Trevor, which formed the entrance to J.C.Edwards's brick and tile works, has been the concern of the Council recently. It was unanimously agreed that this being the only tangible monument remaining of a company producing products of world renown and a relic of the area's history then every effort should be made to retain it.

Following a request to Flexsys Rubber Chemicals Ltd for some remedial work to it, it was discovered by them that it was in a dangerous condition and that major work was required. The owners, Solutia Chemicals (Flexsys are guardians of their property), could not fund the necessary work. Flexsys proposed that in the short term that they would dismantle the section of wall without pillars, retain the brickwork for subsequent repair to the remainder, and fence the gap.

The Council then began to seek grants to fund the dismantling and re-building of the pillared section of the wall but it soon became apparent that this would not be possible as they were not the owners of the structure. Contact with CADW was also made with the view to getting it listed.

On St. David's day excellent news was received. Roger Mason, Engineering Supervisor at Flexsys, contacted the Council to inform them that Flexsys would fund the project under their 'Care in the Community' scheme. The work will commence shortly.



## **Garth and Trevor Community Centre**

The Garth and Trevor Community Centre was originally located in the old J. C. Edwards Office building owned at that time by Monsanto. It moved to its present location in 1975. This is a purpose built Centre situated on the Rhos y coed Housing Estate, in the village of Trevor.

### **Officials**

Mrs Joyce Evans	Chairman
Mr Delwyn Roberts	Secretary
Mrs. Julie Cooper	Treasurer

To hire the Community Centre contact Mrs J Evans telephone no. 01978 823244

The Community Centre is used by local organisations including;- the W.I., Youth Club, Friendship Club, Carpet Bowls Club, Mothers and toddlers, Mothers Union and local Dramatic societies.

The centre has a main hall, which can be hired out for functions such as Discos, wedding receptions, children's parties, and concerts. In addition to the main hall it has a kitchen, smaller committee room and a computer access point.

## **Froncysyllte Community Centre**

The Froncysyllte Community Centre was built in 1972, with funds raised by local people, and is situated on Gate Road.

### **Officials**

Mrs A. Owens	Chairman
Mr Geraint Roberts	Secretary
Mr Jack Hawkins	Treasurer

To hire the Community Centre contact Mr G. Roberts 01691 773056.

The Community Centre is available for Christening parties, bingo, and concerts and it now has a licence for Weddings. The Centre is well used by the residents of Froncysyllte; it has a large function room for dancing, an organ and kitchen facilities. It is used on Polling Day and the Community Council hold meetings at the Centre.

## **Froncysyllte Community Centre Forthcoming Events**

Monday night (every fortnight)  
Whist Drive 7.30pm start

Mothers & Toddlers Tuesday morning  
10.00 – 11.30pm

Tuesday afternoon Darby & Joan Club  
2pm – 4pm

Tuesday evening Dog Training Classes  
6.00pm – 9.00pm

Wednesday afternoon Bowls Club  
1.00pm – 4.30pm

Wednesday evening Social Night  
7.00pm – 10.00pm Everyone welcome

Thursday evening Youth Club  
7pm – 9pm

Friday evening Prize Bingo  
7.00pm – 8.45pm

Saturday evening Bingo Club  
7.00 – 8.45pm

## **200 Year Celebration - Pontcysyllte Aqueduct**

Pontcysyllte Aqueduct is considered to be the best work of Thomas Telford who built it 121 feet above the River Dee. The first stone was laid in July 1795 and construction took 10 years costing £47,000. On 26th November 2005, 4,500 people turned out to mark the 200th anniversary of its construction.

At noon, a flotilla of 11 boats from Froncysyllte crossed the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct the highest aqueduct in Britain, and entered Trevor Basin by a 16 cannon salute. The first boat Saturn was drawn across the Aqueduct by navvies.

The Community and VIP's were treated to a re-enactment of Thomas Telford's "A day in the life of Thomas Telford". A performance by the Froncysyllte Male Voice Choir, Wrexham Brass Band and St Deniol's Marchwiell School Choir followed.

There were hands on activities for the children, and Cefn Mawr Musical Society performed musical recitals throughout the day as Rosie and Jim. Children were able to visit the characters on the barge 'Millie' and find out what its like to live on a beautiful narrow boat. Story telling and Napoleonic battle were also staged with the event finally climaxing at 4.30pm with a spectacular firework display.

Llangollen Rural Community Council congratulates the organisers of the event, Northern Marchers Cymru for an outstanding and successful day.



### **Wrexham Advertiser 12th June 1869**

About midway between Ruabon and Llangollen on a branch of the GWR there is a station called Trevor. When the branch was first opened this station was called Chwrele but as English travellers always despaired of pronouncing the word, the nearest approach to the sound any Saxon was ever known to accomplish being Gorilla, the name was changed to the more mellifluous one of Trevor. All this was very considerate of the directors but being Englishmen themselves, perhaps we have not much to thank them for.

## Garth and Trevor Telecottage

At the Telecottage we provide computer services for the community including broadband Internet access. We have copying facilities and we are also able to print posters, tickets, business cards etc. Basic training in Microsoft Word and Excel can be provided.

We are situated at the rear of the Community Centre in Trevor and our opening hours are –

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday  
19:00hrs to 21:00hrs.

Other times are by prior arrangement -  
Tel. no. (01978) 823762 or with  
Delwyn Roberts (Chairman) 01978-  
810119 or Glyn Jones (Secretary)  
01978-821983.

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## Bird Watch

We are above the river, canal and open fields, and back on to woods and old quarries in Froncysyllte. The following birds have been seen in and from the garden (i.e. buzzards, herons flying overhead).

January 2006

Blackbird, Buzzard, Chaffing, Coal tit, Black cap, Collared dove, Great tit, Greenfinch, Great spotted woodpecker, Goldfinch, Hedge sparrow, Jackdaw, Long tailed tit, Magpie, Nuthatch, Robin, Sparrow hawk, Song thrush, Tawny Owl, Tree creeper, Wren, male & female Pheasants.

February 2006

Blackbird, Blue tit, Buzzard, Coal tit, Chaffinch, Goldfinch, Greenfinch, Great tit, Hedge sparrow, Jackdaw, Nuthatch, Robin, Song thrush, Starling, Tawny Owls, Woodpigeon, male & female Pheasants.

*Has anyone from Trevor and Garth been keeping a record of garden birds? Please let us know for the next edition.*

## Library

The mobile Library calls every three weeks on a Tuesday:

Trevor Australia Arms	9.30 – 9.55am
Garth Rockman's Arms	10.00 – 10.20am
Garth Primary School	10.25 – 11.00am
Pentre Village School	11.20 – 11.50am
Trevor Community Centre	1.00 – 2.00pm
Rhosymedre Community Centre	2.15 – 3.45pm
Fron Britannia Inn	4.00 – 4.40pm

Dates for 2006: 18 April, 9 May, 30 May, 20 June, 11 July, 1 August, 22 August, 12 Sept, 3 October, 24 October, 14 November, 5 Dec.

Any queries regarding the operating of this route should be referred to Rhos Library 01978 840328.

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## Trevor & Garth Women's Institute

The WI was established over seventy-five years ago drawing its members from Trevor and Garth. Traditionally the WI has played an important role in the community, now only twenty strong it still continues to do so. Mrs Martin Whitworth was its first president in 1929, and our current president is Mrs Daisy Berry.

The Institute meets every second Thursday of the month in Trevor and Garth Community Centre at 7pm. New Members are always welcome and anyone wishing to join should contact any of the officials: President Mrs Daisy Berry, Secretary Mrs Jean Roberts or Treasurer Mrs Joyce Evans. Further information on the WI is available on the Community Council web site.

### Forthcoming events are as follows:

6th April Adventure Talk with Rebecca Huxley. 11th May Resolutions, June a Walk and July an Outing.

## Trevor Church

Services each Sunday at 9-30am  
1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday  
HOLY COMMUNION  
2nd & 4th Sunday MATINS

**Vicar:** Rev Tom Pritchard, Vicarage,  
Abbey Road, Llangollen  
Telephone: 01978 860231

**Curate (Part time):** Rev. Ben Parry,  
Fairways, Halton, Chirk 01691 778484

### **Mother's Union (Trevor Branch)**

Meets every month on the 1st Wednesday alternating between the Church and Trevor Community Centre. Secretaries; Mrs. Carol Owen & Mrs. Mary Blake

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## **St David's Church, Froncsyllte Church in Wales**

Worship every Sunday at 9.30am  
(exceptions to this or extra services published on external notice board).

Vicar: The Rev. A.J. Rees, The Vicarage,  
Trevor Road, Chirk, Wrexham. LL14 5HD  
Telephone No. 01691 778519

Enquiries about baptisms, weddings and funerals always welcome.

Christians of any tradition welcome at our services.

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## **Seion Congregational Chapel Froncsyllte**

**Service:** every Sunday morning  
10.30 to 11.30am.

Art Group meeting every  
Tuesday afternoon  
1.00pm to 4.00pm.

### **On request**

Funeral Service  
Wedding Service  
Christening Service

### **Contacts:**

Mrs E Hammonds  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Mrs G Jones Caretaker

## **Message from the Vicar of Llangollen**

Dear Parishioners,

I am delighted that the Llangollen Rural Community Council has decided to establish a local newsletter for the villages in the area.

We are told that we now live in the information age and this is certainly true. Access to information of all kinds is now the key to a successful economy and for personal success in work and leisure etc.

The newsletter will bring together the people of the villages and inform them not only about events and things that have already happened but also of forthcoming events and issues of concern. All Community Councils struggle hard to let the people of their parishes know what is happening and sometimes it is very difficult to find a convenient forum; I hope that this newsletter will do the job.

We are very fortunate to have an outstanding little place of worship in Garth, which serves the villages of Garth and Trevor. This little gem is Trevor Chapelry, it is one of the few churches built in the reigns of Queen Anne and George I. The Church, for those who have not yet discovered it, is set amidst woods very near to Trevor Hall. Services are held every Sunday morning at 9.30 a.m. throughout the year and also at special occasions such as Easter, Christmas and Harvest. Those who attend the Church are very welcoming and a lively bunch of people. They will always be willing to chat and offer coffee after the services.

Thanks to the generosity of the Community Council, we have recently been able to install a Portaloo in the grounds of the church and that has greatly improved our amenities.

We have our own small magazine which is distributed among our worshippers and others but we hope to use the new newsletter which will have a wider audience of readers. We also hope to contribute to the newsletter regularly.

As we move into the season of Palm Sunday [Sul y Blodau], Holy Week, Good Friday and Easter may I wish all the readers of this new newsletter every blessing and the joy of the risen Lord.

Yours sincerely

*Tom Pritchard*

Vicar

## **Froncysyllte C.P. School**

The school was opened in September 1863 and was called The Froncysyllte British School. The first Headmaster from 1863 to 1865 was Mr E. Evans who had 90 pupils present at the end of the first week. By 1913 the school was overcrowded with 176 pupils plus 80 infants, making a total of 256 pupils. In 1914 the old Primitive Methodist Chapel was bought by the Education Authority as an extra classroom to provide room for the children.

Today, there are 65 full time pupils and 4 children in the Nursery. There has been considerable refurbishment over the years to the classroom areas, to help us make the school a comfortable and pleasant learning environment. We have currently obtained School House and are looking ahead to remodelling the building to provide an extra classroom and office space.

The classrooms are attractively laid out and features include: Practical teaching areas for art, craft, design and technology. A school hall with apparatus for P.E, Drama, Music and Movement, school productions and school assemblies. There is a well-stocked library, seven desktop computers and four lap top computers. A very attractive school garden, including greenhouse and bog area. We have a well attended and popular After School Kids' Club and provision for Early Years - 3 year olds can stay all day. Outside facilities comprise of separate Infant and Junior Playgrounds and a large playing field.

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## **Garth Community Primary School**

The school has 87 pupils and is located in the picturesque village of Garth. We have the privilege of overlooking far reaching views, which are forever changing with the seasons. Due to the location we are able to use our environment to conduct a variety of outdoor curricular and extra-curricular activities, Pupils are involved in the Healthy Schools project and have won many awards, which have enabled us to develop the school site to include many challenging physical and mental development activities.

Pupils are involved in eco-friendly programmes and other cultural and industrial projects. To quote our ESTYN report:

"There are some outstanding features in the way the school promotes lifelong learning skills"

"The school provides good cultural and multicultural experiences through links with schools in Ghana, Uganda, Nepal, Switzerland, Ireland, Italy and Tibet". Inspected in March 2005.

The aim of the school is to promote pupils' full potential by providing an all round education that develops excellent personal, social, cultural and spiritual skills, to create caring citizens of the future.

The school has a pre-school playgroup, an after-school club, sports club, (breakfast club as from April 2006) and very active School Council.

## County Councillor's Diary

Once again the year 2006 has got off to a busy start.

Site Meetings have been held:

To move the 30 mph sign further up the hill at Upper Garth to slow the traffic down. To get the lamppost at the bottom of Garth Hill corner moved back to improve vision. To look at the safety aspect of the boundary within the brickworks development (The Oaks) as there were concerns regarding children playing around the old shafts. I have also attended a number of meetings regarding the J C Edwards entrance (see page two 'Wall to be re-built).

Street lighting is always an issue throughout the ward on a daily basis.

I attend Monthly meetings with the South of Wrexham police with other Councillors, which are held at the Stiwt in Rhos. Any issues concerning Llangollen Rural Ward are discussed.

I also meet with our Community beat Manager PC Gary Robertshaw on a regular basis. We recently held a focus meeting at Trevor Community Centre with local residents of the ward, which was very well attended and lots of local issues were aired. It's proposed that this group will meet again in three months to discuss the out come. Everyone welcome.

The recent heavy snow meant extra phone calls to the highways department to keep our roads gritted and opened.

Any problems don't hesitate to contact me: *Pat Jeffares*

Phone: 01978 820570 E-mail: [pat@jeffares.idps.co.uk](mailto:pat@jeffares.idps.co.uk)

### Llangollen Rural Community Council Meetings

The Council Meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of the month, excluding January and August. With the July meeting taking place the Tuesday after Eisteddfod week. All meetings of the Council are open to the public.

If you wish to raise an issue concerning the community, please contact a member of the Council or the Clerk.

### In Your Next Newsletter

Youth Club News, Greening Project, Gardening Competition, Your Comments, Looking Back.

### Community Councillors

#### Fron

Cllr. Mrs Audrey Owens	01691 773004
Cllr. Geraint Roberts	01691 773056
Cllr. James Davies	07800681906

#### Garth

Cllr. Mrs M. Iola Roberts	01978 810119
Cllr. Mr Elfed Morris	01978 820122

#### Trevor

Cllr. Mrs D.J. Evans (Chairman)	01978 823244
Cllr. Mrs Susan Kempster (Vice-Chair)	01978 810302
Cllr. Mrs Tracey Pugh	01978 820631
Cllr. Glyn Jones	01978 821983
C/Cllr Pat Jeffares	01978 820570

#### Clerk to the Council.

Mrs S. Jones, 1 Ael Y Bryn, Llangollen Road, Trevor. Telephone number 01978 810466.